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CONTENTS

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NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Vo Chi Cong Receives PICC, UN Officials [VNA]	1
Nguyen Van Linh Meets Officials [VNA]	1
Joint Communique Released [Hanoi Radio]	1
Thai Premier Meets Officials on Cambodia Issue [Bangkok TV]	2
Three Cambodian Factions Agree on SNC Meeting [Bangkok TV]	2

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Government, U.S. in Agreement Over Gulf War Aid [KYODO]	3
Government Flies Oil Booms to Saudi Arabia [KYODO]	3
LDP Official Proposes Sending Troops to Gulf [KYODO]	3
Sakhalin Governor on 'Partial Return' of 4 Islands [KYODO]	4
Firms Apprehensive on U.S.-Soviet Shipping Ties [KYODO]	4
BOJ Ready 'To Help Stabilize' U.S. Dollar [KYODO]	4
BOJ on U.S. Decision To Lower Discount Rate [KYODO]	5
BOJ's Mieno Dismisses Effects of Rate Changes [KYODO]	5
ANC Urges Continued Sanctions on South Africa [KYODO]	6
Government Considers Ending Sanctions [KYODO]	6
Chinese Group Suspected of Illegal Entry [KYODO]	6
Group Threatens 'Drug War' on Tokyo Firms [KYODO]	7
Early Submission of Farm Trade Platform Unlikely [KYODO]	7
Voting Begins in Gubernatorial, Mayoral Elections [KYODO]	7
KYODO Reports Results	8
Cabinet Not To Revise Economic Policy Targets [KYODO]	9
Cabinet Adopts Land Price Reduction Program [KYODO]	9
Reportage on Delegation's Visit to Albania [cross-reference]	9

Mongolia

Bagabandi Leads Party Delegation to Moscow [MONTSAME]	9
Prime Minister Receives Buryat ASSR Official [MONTSAME]	9
Leaders Condole Death of Laos' Sali Vongkhamsao [MONTSAME]	9
Preparations for MPRP Congress in 'Final Stage' [MONTSAME]	10
State Small Hural Amends Law on Parties [MONTSAME]	10

North Korea

Formation of 'Gulf War Study Group' Analyzed [KCNA]	10
South Denounced for Giving Aid to Gulf Conflict [Pyongyang Radio]	10
South's Urging of 'Thrift and Frugality' Examined [KCNA]	12
Kim Il-song Receives Message From Benin President [KCNA]	12
Kim Il-song Condoles Sihanouk on Relative's Death [KCNA]	12
Unity of Leadership, Party, Masses Emphasized [KCNA]	12
Daily Calls on People To Uphold Party Leadership [KCNA]	13
Daily Urges Adding 'Shine to Our Socialism' [KCNA]	14
Daily Claims Socialist Development Inevitable [KCNA]	14
Chuche-Orientated Theory of Party Building Viewed [KCNA]	15
Foreign Leaders Convey Support to Reunification [KCNA]	16

Cuba Sends Message of Support [KCNA]	16
Daily Urges Adoption of Nonaggression Declaration [KCNA]	16
Daily Urges Release of Detainees in South [KCNA]	17
South's Break-Up of Radio Station Strike Viewed [KCNA]	17
Continued Reaction to 'Team Spirit' Exercises	18
Aerial Exercises Reported [KCNA]	18
U.S. 'To Pay Dearly' for Attack [KCNA]	18
South's Citizens Reject Exercise [KCNA]	18
Asian Chuche Group Comments [KCNA]	19
Statement UN 'Official Document' [KCNA]	19
Kim Yong-nam Discusses Talks With Japanese Press [Pyongyang Radio]	19
Yon Hyong-muk's Activities in Indonesia Noted [Pyongyang Radio]	20
Premier Concludes Visit [Pyongyang Radio]	20
Sports Delegation Departs for Games in Iran [KCNA]	20
Vice Premier Meets With Romanian Trade Official [KCNA]	21
Trade, Payments Agreement Signed [KCNA]	21
Yon Hyong-muk Sends Greetings to Uganda's Adyebo [KCNA]	21
An Kyong-hyon Named New Ambassador to Nigeria [KCNA]	21
Work Units Fulfill Third Seven-Year Plan Quotas [KCNA]	21
Production Increases Throughout Economy Examined	21
In National Economy [KCNA]	21
In Rural, Agricultural Production [KCNA]	22
In Shipbuilding [KCNA]	22
In North Pyongan Province [KCNA]	23
In Komdok Mining Production [KCNA]	23
At Sunchon Thermal Plant [KCNA]	23
Industrial Programs Situated in Chongjin Examined [KCNA]	24
WPK Message of Thanks Delivered to Scientists [Pyongyang Radio]	24
Construction of Pyongyang's New Streets Viewed [KCNA]	25
Journalists' Organization Adopts Resolution [KCNA]	26

South Korea

No 'Further Support' Being Considered for Gulf [YONHAP]	26
Iraqi Chemical Weapons Use on Israel 'Imminent' [KYONGHYANG SINMUN 4 Feb]	26
Saudi Arabian Ambassador Interviewed on Gulf War [TONG-A ILBO 3 Feb]	27
South General Designated as MAC Senior Delegate [YONHAP]	28
North's Continued Military Buildup 'No Surprise' [THE KOREA HERALD 5 Feb]	28
North-U.S. Councilor Contact in Beijing Reported [YONHAP]	29
Defector to North Fails To Establish Labor Union [YONHAP]	29
Yi Sang-ok Discusses Future Diplomatic Goals [Seoul Radio]	29
Proposed Discussions of KAL Incident Reported [KOREA DAILY 5 Feb]	31
China Shows 'Flexibility' on Joint UN Membership [SEOUL SINMUN 4 Feb]	31
Soviet Economist To Speak at Korean Institute [THE KOREA HERALD 5 Feb]	32
Answers Questions About Economy [HANGUK ILBO 4 Feb]	32
Seoul, Leningrad Colleges To Accept Credits [YONHAP]	33
North Shows Japanese Films on TV for First Time [YONHAP]	33
President Orders Full Probe Into Housing Scandal [YONHAP]	34
PPD To Endorse Gulf Aid, Oppose USSR Loan [YONHAP]	34
Merger of Democratic Party With Dissidents Viewed [HANGYORE SINMUN 5 Feb]	34
Iranian Fails To Smuggle Out Forged Passports [YONHAP]	35
Government Excuses for Economic Problems Viewed [THE KOREA TIMES 5 Feb]	35
1990 Foreign Debt Shows Increases Over 1989 [YONHAP]	36

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

Former Premier U Nu's Party Deregistered [Rangoon Radio]	37
Phone Myint Views Current Political Scene [Rangoon Radio]	37
Mauritian Trade Minister Arrives, Holds Talks [Rangoon Radio]	40

Gungah, Delegation Depart 4 Feb [Rangoon Radio]	40
---	----

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

DPRK Premier Arrives for 4-Day Visit 4 Feb [BERNAMA]	40
Visits Rubber Research Institute [Kuala Lumpur International]	40
Government To Review Sanctions Against S. Africa [BERNAMA]	40
Chin Peng Vows To Renew Struggle Politically [Bangkok BANGKOK POST 3 Feb]	41

Cambodia

Hor Namhong: Government To Hold Elections in 1992 [AFP]	42
Soviet Official Confirms Continued Military Aid [AFP]	42
AFP on 'Major Attacks' Launched by Resistance	43
SPK Reports on Military Activities in Northwest	43
Commentary Views Peace Talks in Thailand, SRV [Phnom Penh Radio]	43
Party Daily Refutes Sihanouk Claim on Stockpiling [Phnom Penh Radio]	44
National Assembly's 20th Session Closes 2 Feb [SPK]	45
Chea Sim Gives Closing Address [SPK]	45
UNESCO Delegation Leaves After 17-Day Visit [SPK]	47
Radio Criticizes Chea Sim's 10 Jan Statement [Radio VONADK]	47
Commentary Says Peace in Hands of Vietnamese [Radio VOK]	47

Indonesia

Antiwar Appeal to UN; March on U.S. Embassy [ANTARA]	48
Suharto Calls For Prayers To End Gulf War [ANTARA]	48
Departure of Workers to Saudi Arabia Suspended [ANTARA]	49
IMF Official on Gulf War, Global Recession [ANTARA]	49
Official Says Gulf War Not Affecting Trade [ANTARA]	49
Religious Councils Call For Peace in Gulf [Jakarta Radio]	50

Laos

Committee Issues Statement on 'Team Spirit 91' [KPL]	50
Central Committee Greet CPV Anniversary [KPL]	50
Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Pays 2-Day Visit [KPL]	51
Ceremony Marks Anniversary of Trade Union [KPL]	51
World Bank 'Pleased' With Economic Management [KPL]	51
Meeting Held on Swedish Aid Agreement [KPL]	52

Philippines

Iraqi, Palestinians 'Apparently Sent To Bomb' Clark [AFP]	52
Suspected Terrorists Use Ethiopian Passports [Manila Radio]	52
Ramos Defends Delay of U.S. Equipment Delivery [BUSINESS WORLD 4 Feb]	53
Department Protests U.S. Aid Transferal [MALAYA 5 Feb]	53
Group Assails Platt Remarks on Manglapus Speech [MANILA BULLETIN 5 Feb]	53
Nomination of New Soviet Envoy Reported [THE MANILA CHRONICLE 2 Feb]	54
Court Clears, Releases Military Rebels [Manila Radio]	54
Captured Soldier: Coup Plotters Earned Salaries [AFP]	54
Army Battalion Said Supporting Rebel Soldiers [PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 4 Feb]	54
European MP's To Discuss Insurgency With Aquino [THE MANILA CHRONICLE 4 Feb]	55
Army Chief Reveals 'New Combat Strategy' [THE MANILA CHRONICLE 5 Feb]	55
Officials Urge Lifting Cease-Fire in Quake Areas [THE MANILA CHRONICLE 5 Feb]	56
Salonga Unconcerned About Reports of His Removal [Manila Radio]	56
Senator: Bank Governor, Secretary Face Arrest [Quezon City Radio]	57
Rebels To Try Former Captain at Kangaroo Court [Manila Radio]	57
Congressman Asks Recruitment of Former Rebels [Quezon City Radio]	57

Thailand

Four 'Suspected Arab Terrorists' in Custody [Bangkok TV]	57
'Excessive' TV Coverage of War Angers Muslims [BANGKOK POST 3 Feb]	57
Chatchai Asks Reduced Coverage [AFP]	58
Foreign Schools Reopen After Terrorism Warning [AFP]	58
Commentary Reviews Thai-North Korean Relations [Radio VOFA]	59
SIAM RAT Opposes Opening North Korean Embassy [2 Feb]	60
U.S. Pharmaceutical Petition 'Upset' Government [BANGKOK POST 2 Feb]	60
Foreign Minister Discusses Cambodia, Burma, Gulf [KHAO PISET 7-13 Jan]	61
Spokesman: Requests for Jakarta Talks on Cambodia [THE NATION 5 Feb]	62
Athit on Next Meeting of Cambodian Factions [Bangkok Radio]	63
Official Reports on Repatriation of Lao Refugees [Radio VOFA]	63
'Alleged Assassination Attempts' Examined [THE NATION 3 Feb]	63
Health Official Cites AIDS Statistics, Policy [THE NATION 1 Feb]	65
Officials Seize 22.5 kg of Heroin in Bangkok [Bangkok TV]	66

Vietnam

Seminar With U.S. Probes MIA's, Relations [Hanoi Radio]	66
Conference With U.S. on Humanitarian Issues [Hanoi Radio]	67
Luu Duc Chuyen on Party Draft Documents [QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 10 Jan]	67
Kien Giang Province Views Party Documents [NHAN DAN 14 Jan]	68
Party Leadership Role, Activities Reviewed [Hanoi Radio]	70
Radio Reviews Role of Communist Party of Vietnam [Hanoi International]	71
Armed Forces To View Party Draft Reports [Hanoi Radio]	72
Army Department Discusses Emulation Movement [Hanoi Radio]	72
Defense Ministry Issues Troop Regulations [Hanoi Radio]	72
Committee Discusses Agricultural Production [Hanoi International]	73
Hanoi Urges Quick Settlement of Cambodian Issue [Hanoi International]	73
SRV-Phnom Penh Cooperation Committee Meets [Hanoi Radio]	73
Vo Chi Cong Receives European Envoys [Hanoi Radio]	74
Lao Trade Delegation Arrives on Visit [VNA]	74
Chinese Trade Delegation Visits Border Province [VNA]	74
CPV Greets Italian Communist Party Congress [Hanoi International]	74
CPV Greets Mexican Socialist Party Congress [Hanoi Radio]	74
Party Central Committee Greets German PDS [VNA]	74

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

Trade Minister Welcomes EC Plan to Reform Policy [Melbourne International]	75
--	----

Fiji

Official, Opposition Figure Discuss S. Africa [AFP]	75
Rabuka Champions Cause of Mine Workers [Melbourne International]	75

New Zealand

PLO To Ask Government for Food, Gas Masks [AFP]	76
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Vanuatu

Lini Fires Finance Minister; Reason Not Given [AFP]	76
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Vo Chi Cong Receives PICC, UN Officials

*BK0102154591 Hanoi VNA in English 1514 GMT
1 Feb 91*

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 1—President Vo Chi Cong today received the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC), Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and French Minister in Charge of External Relations Ms. Edwige Avice, and UN Under Secretary General Rafiuddin Ahmad, who is also special envoy of the UN secretary general.

Mr Ali Alatas, Ms Adwige Avice and Mr Rafiuddin Ahmad informed the Vietnamese leader of the progress in the search for a political solution to the Cambodia issue, as well as new developments in Vietnam's relations with Indonesia, France and the United Nations.

They conveyed greetings from Indonesian President Suharto, French President Francois Mitterrand and UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to President Vo Chi Cong.

Speaking to his guests President Vo Chi Cong reaffirmed Vietnam's goodwill for peace and correct stance towards the settlement of the Cambodia issue by an overall political, equitable and reasonable solution. He highly valued the cooperation of Indonesia, France and the United Nations with Vietnam in economic development. He asked the guests to convey his best regards to the Indonesian president, the French president and the UN secretary general.

Nguyen Van Linh Meets Officials

*BK0302153191 Hanoi VNA in English 1451 GMT
3 Feb 91*

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 3—Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, today received Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and French Minister in Charge of External Relations Mrs. Edwige Avice, cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC], and Rafiuddin Ahmad, under secretary general of the United Nations and special envoy of the UN secretary-general, who are visiting Ho Chi Minh City.

Also present on this occasion were Tran Quang Co, Vietnamese vice-minister for foreign affairs, Vu Khac Bong, director of the Foreign Service of Ho Chi Minh City, and the Indonesian and French ambassadors to Vietnam.

Minister Ali Alatas, Minister Adwige Avice and UN Under Secretary General Rafiuddin Ahmad thanked General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh for the reception, and expressed their views related to the search for a political solution to the Cambodian issue as well as to the prospects of developing bilateral cooperation between Vietnam and Indonesia, France and the United Nations.

General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh welcomed the foreign guests' working visit to Vietnam and reiterated the

earnest desire for peace of the Vietnamese people and government. He said that as such, Vietnam would work actively with other countries in seeking a solution to the Cambodian issue on the basis of respect for Cambodia's national independence and self-determination.

Joint Communique Released

*BK0202123591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 2 Feb 91*

[Text] From 31 January to 2 February, Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and French Minister in Charge of External Relations Edwige Avice, cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, and UN Under Secretary General Rafiuddin Ahmad, paid a working visit to Hanoi.

The delegations visited the Ho Chi Minh museum and some installations in Hanoi. On 3 February, General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh will receive the three delegations in Ho Chi Minh City. State Council Chairman Vo Chi Cong cordially received the three delegations. Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach held talks with the three delegations on a political solution to the Cambodian issue, and separate talks with each delegation on bilateral issues.

Following is the text of the joint communique by Vietnam and the three delegations on the visit:

The two cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, Mr Ali Alatas and Mrs Edwige Avice, with UN envoy of the UN Secretary General Rafiuddin Ahmad accompanying, held talks with Mr. Nguyen Co Thach, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister, on 1 and 2 February 1991 in Hanoi.

The guests were received by State Council Chairman Vo Chi Cong and General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Nguyen Van Linh.

At these meetings, all sides discussed intensively and extensively the draft plan for an overall political solution to the Cambodian conflict. The Vietnamese side reiterated that Vietnam accepts the general document set forth by the UN Security Council's permanent members on 28 August 1990 as a basis for settling the Cambodian conflict.

All sides agreed that the State of Cambodia's sovereignty must be respected. The two cochairmen and the UN general secretary's envoy presented their views and explained the draft agreements put forth on 26 November 1990.

The Vietnamese side welcomed the results of the meeting in Paris from 21 to 23 December 1990 between the 12 members of the Supreme National Council [SNC] and the two cochairmen and the UN general secretary's envoy.

The Vietnamese side welcomed the explanations of the two cochairmen and the UN general secretary's envoy.

and asserted its readiness to support the efforts of the two cochairmen to settle the outstanding problems.

With a view to attaining that goal, all sides agreed that there should be another meeting between the two cochairmen and the SNC members to pave the way for convening a conference of the Paris conference's coordination committee. To reconvene the Paris conference in an atmosphere favorable to national reconciliation, it is essential that all sides involved in the conflict genuinely restrain themselves.

The two cochairmen and the Vietnamese side agreed that an overall political solution to the Cambodian conflict is a pressing issue. All sides will do their utmost to reach this goal.

Thai Premier Meets Officials on Cambodia Issue

*BK0402143191 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5
in Thai 1230 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Text] French Foreign Minister-Delegate Edwige Avice, Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, and UN Under Secretary General Rafiuddin Ahmad called on Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan at Government House this morning. The three are currently on a visit to Thailand. Their discussion with the prime minister lasted for more than one hour.

M.R. Pridiyathon Thewakun, spokesman of the Prime Minister's Office, reported after the meeting that France and Indonesia, both cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, reported to the prime minister on the progress in efforts for peace in Cambodia. The drafting of a peace plan has been completed, but there are still some details to be worked out by the four Cambodian factions, such as steps toward disarmament and the election of the chairman of the Supreme National Council. They wanted the Thai prime minister to arrange for a meeting of the Supreme National Council before a meeting is held in Paris. Gen. Chatchai

agreed to the request and will invite each of the Cambodian factions for discussions, probably beginning next week. He also made the point that the major world powers must stop sending weapons to Cambodia if they really want to see a peace settlement there.

Later on in an interview with reporters, Prime Minister Chatchai said that the Cambodian problem should be settled most urgently.

Three Cambodian Factions Agree on SNC Meeting

*BK0402150791 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5
in Thai 1230 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Text] Representatives of the three Cambodian factions held a meeting at the Indonesian Embassy in Thailand today with Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas acting as coordinator. They are: Prince Norodom Ranariddh, Khieu Samphan, and a representative from the Son Sann faction. There was no representative from the Hun Sen regime. After a meeting which lasted for about an hour, the three factions agreed to hold a meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC]. The meeting must be held under the conditions agreed upon in Paris on 26 November 1990.

Earlier in the day, Rafiuddin Ahmad, under secretary general of the United Nations, called on Thai Foreign Minister Dr. Athit Urairat. The foreign minister then had a discussion with the Indonesian foreign minister and the French foreign minister-delegate for about 45 minutes. They were joined by Kraissak Chunhawan, a policy adviser to the Thai prime minister.

The group reported after the meeting that they are in Thailand in order to present to the Thai prime minister a UN draft peace plan on Cambodia. They want to know the prime minister's opinion of the plan and would like him to arrange a meeting of the SNC. Thailand agreed that a meeting of the SNC should be held, but the venue, date, and host of the meeting are still to be decided.

Japan

Government, U.S. in Agreement Over Gulf War Aid

OW0502042391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0239 GMT
5 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 5 KYODO—Japan and the United States are in agreement on Tokyo's request that its new 9 billion dollar contribution to U.S.-led multinational forces in the Persian Gulf should not be spent on weapons or ammunition, Japan's top government spokesman said Tuesday.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto said that the two countries concur that Japan's contribution should be restricted to covering the cost of such items as medicine, food, transportation, and administrative costs.

"There is no disagreement on this point between Japan and the United States," he told reporters.

Sakamoto's remarks came in response to a statement by the U.S. State Department on Monday that the conditions imposed by Japan will not pose "a practical problem."

State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutweiler said the cost of logistical support for the U.S. forces in the Gulf is expected to exceed the additional 9 billion dollars Japan pledged on January 24.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told members of his cabinet that Tutweiler's remark supported his statements in Parliament Monday that Japan would seek to limit the aid to noncombat expenditures. He added that Japan had not specifically asked the U.S. to back his position, said a source attending the gathering.

Japan plans to disburse the funds through the Riyadh-based Gulf Peace Fund established jointly by Japan and the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council.

The fund was established to administer Japan's earlier 2 billion dollar contribution to the multilateral forces extended last autumn.

So far, 70 percent of that money has been disbursed, with 91 percent of the funds going to the United States. The remainder went to Britain, Syria, Pakistan, Egypt, and five other countries with forces in the Gulf, a senior Foreign Ministry official said Monday.

In addition, Japan has pledged 2 billion dollars to countries whose economies have been hit hardest by economic sanctions against Iraq.

Government Flies Oil Booms to Saudi Arabia

OW0502044691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0351 GMT
5 Feb 91

[Text] Narita, Chiba Pref., Feb. 5 KYODO—A U.S. Boeing 747 cargo jet chartered by the Japanese Government left for Saudi Arabia on Tuesday carrying 5 kilometers of oil booms to help control the massive oil slick in the Persian Gulf.

The Evergreen International jet is scheduled to arrive in Dhahran in Saudi Arabia on Tuesday night.

Japan plans to send a total of 30 kilometers of oil booms to help combat the largest oil spill in history. The second flight is expected to leave on Thursday.

The United States has charge that Iraq released an estimated 11 million barrels of oil the Gulf in a deliberate effort to complicate war plans by the U.S.-led multinational forces. Iraq has claimed that the spill was caused by U.S. bombings of Kuwaiti oil installations.

The Government has chartered Evergreen International, based in Oregon, because Japanese Airlines has refused to fly near the war zone, a Foreign Ministry official said.

The cost will be paid for from the 2 billion dollar contribution Japan made last year to the Riyadh-based Gulf Peace Fund, which was set up by Japan and the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council to disburse Tokyo's aid to the war effort.

LDP Official Proposes Sending Troops to Gulf

OW0402141591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1311 GMT
4 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 4 (KYODO)—A senior ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) official proposed to parliament Monday that Japan dispatch troops to the Persian Gulf, but his suggestion was flatly rejected by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

LDP's Chief of Public Relations Koichi Hamada said the government should reexamine Japan's Constitution to see whether it permits the dispatch of military personnel as a way of meeting the nation's "joint responsibility" in countering unjust behavior.

"We should think again about whether sending the military overseas is a violation of our constitution," Hamada said in an emotionally charged speech before the House of Representatives budget committee.

"By dispatching our Self-Defense Forces (SDF) overseas and giving them pride ... we will be able to get a proper understanding of our position from the United States and other countries that have dispatched troops," he said.

It was the first time for a lawmaker to advocate that parliament reinterpret the constitution since the U.S.-led

multinational forces launched attacks on Iraq and Iraqi-occupied Kuwait on January 17.

Last November parliament killed a bill that would have allowed SDF personnel to go to the Gulf to serve in noncombat positions.

Kaifu rejected Hamada's proposal to open debate in parliament, saying the government intends to stand by the interpretation that bars the overseas dispatch of SDF personnel to participate in military operations.

The postwar constitution denounces the use of force as a means to resolve international disputes.

Sakhalin Governor on 'Partial Return' of 4 Islands

*OW0402123591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1147 GMT
4 Feb 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 4 (KYODO)—Sakhalin Gov. Valentin P. Fedorov on Monday proposed the partial return of four Soviet-islands off northeastern Hokkaido to Japan.

In a press conference in Tokyo, Fedorov expressed his strong hope for a settlement of the territorial dispute over the four islands, saying, "I think it is better to return part of the four islands to Japan."

Fedorov said, "Further decades will be wasted between Japan and the Soviet Union if the territorial dispute between the two nations remains unresolved."

Japan has claimed sovereignty over the four islands—Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan, and the Habomai group—seized by the Soviets at the end of World War II.

The territorial dispute has been a stumbling block to full-fledged Japan-Soviet relations.

"Neither Japan nor the Soviet Union will accept the idea that one of the two nations has sovereignty over all the four islands," the Soviet governor added.

Expressing opposition to a plan that Japan and the Soviet Union jointly utilize the four islands, Fedorov said that, under that scheme, Japan would exploit all the islands due to its economic strength.

Fedorov also said the two nations should hammer out a formula to settle the territorial dispute, under which local islanders would not feel oppressed.

Fedorov, who attended a three-day Japan-Soviet economic conference in Tokyo which ended last week, has reportedly told a Japanese Diet member that two ports on Kunashiri and Shikotan islands will be opened to foreign ships in the near future.

Firms Apprehensive on U.S.-Soviet Shipping Ties

*OW0202112691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0933 GMT
2 Feb 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 (KYODO)—Two shipping companies from the United States and the Soviet Union have basically agreed to launch joint regular container cargo service between Asia and North America this year, Japanese shipping sources said Saturday.

The partners are the leading U.S. shipping firm Sea-Land Corp. and the Soviet Far Eastern Shipping Co.

The new joint transpacific service is viewed with apprehension by Japanese shipping companies, which are already suffering from severe competition on the North America route, the sources said.

The Soviet company is expected to put five of the 10 container ships, which it has already ordered from German shipbuilders, into the planned joint service on the route by the end of this year, the sources said.

With the addition of 12 to 13 vessels already operated by Sea-Land, the partners will be able to jointly operate three cargo flights a week on the route, the sources said.

The tie-up is one of the concrete results of a new U.S.-Soviet marine transportation treaty agreed by U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev during their summit last June.

It will be the first regular service on the North America route to be joined by a Soviet shipping company.

The sources said there are 17 foreign and four Japanese shipping companies currently operating on the North America route, or the largest cargo route in the world.

This new competition could severely affect the operations by Japanese firms, including Nippon Yusen K.K. and Mitsui O.S.K. Lines Ltd., possibly forcing them to abandon the route, the sources said.

BOJ Ready 'To Help Stabilize' U.S. Dollar

*OW0502122091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1117 GMT
5 Feb 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 5 (KYODO)—Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Yasushi Mieno said Tuesday the central bank will intervene in the foreign exchange market in concerted action with international monetary authorities to help stabilize the U.S. dollar.

"A plunge of the dollar would do damage to the global economy. The BOJ is ready to take appropriate measures under international cooperation and coordination as agreed at the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations," Mieno told a Diet budget committee.

The finance ministers and central bank governors of Japan, the United States, Germany, Britain, France, Italy, and Canada agreed in a communique after their two-day gathering in New York in late January to

"strengthen cooperation and to monitor developments in exchange markets" and "to respond as appropriate to maintain stability in international financial markets."

The central bank chief also reiterated his intention of keeping to a tight monetary policy to contain inflationary pressure, dashing growing hopes at home and abroad for an early easing of credit.

"The central bank will continue monitoring the effect of the series of credit tightenings over the past couple of years, with careful attention to the Persian Gulf war and other internal and external factors," he said.

While expressing confidence in the economy, Mieno warned against prices, under increasing pressure from the tight product and labor markets and skittish crude oil prices amid the Gulf conflict.

Touching on Japan's pledged additional aid to the U.S.-led multinational forces fighting Iraq, Mieno saw no problem with the planned issue of short-term government bonds to finance the 9 billion dollar fund.

"I see little difficulty in the issues being absorbed by the market. Demand for short-term debt is strong," he said.

BOJ on U.S. Decision To Lower Discount Rate

*OW0102200991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1642 GMT
1 Feb 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 1 KYODO—A Bank of Japan (BOJ) source said Friday that the U.S. Federal Reserve Board's [FED] decision earlier in the day to lower its official discount rate has put Japan's monetary policymakers in an even tougher position.

The FED lowered its official discount rate, charged on loans to its member banks, from 6.5 percent to 6.0 percent, effective immediately.

Now that the U.S. official discount rate has been brought down to the same level as Japan's, the Bank of Japan will now be forced to take into consideration the effect of its monetary stance on yen-dollar exchange rates, according to the source.

If the central bank decides to further boost its discount rate to contain inflationary pressures, Japan's rate will top that of the U.S., which could send the U.S. dollar reeling, the source said. "Steering monetary policy will be like walking a tightrope," he said.

While keeping a close watch over the economy, price trends, and interest rate movements, the bank intends to adopt necessary measures to cope with the current conditions.

The rate cut follows the U.S. Labor Department's announcement of a 0.1 point rise in the country's unemployment rate in January to 6.2 percent, its highest level since June 1987.

The department also announced that U.S. nonfarm payrolls fell by 232,000 for the month, much worse than a widely expected decline of 15,000.

Another BOJ source said, however, that the FED's latest move, was conducted to revitalize the U.S. economy, and will not affect Japan's credit stance.

"Our policy of monitoring the effects of the BOJ's five rate hikes beginning May 1989 from 2.5 percent to the present 6 percent will not change," he said.

"It's no surprise that the U.S. and Germany have adopted divergent monetary policies, since their economies are moving in opposite directions," he said.

The German Bundesbank raised its discount and Lombard rates by 0.5 percentage point each to 6.5 percent and 9 percent, respectively, Thursday.

"To boost the effectiveness of its discount rate cut, the FED will probably take further action to ease the nation's credit crunch," he added.

A Finance Ministry source said that the U.S. rate cut was implemented to deal with the recessionary U.S. economy.

"Since the rate hikes by the Bundesbank did not have a major effect on the currency markets, the U.S. monetary authorities probably figured that their latest moves would also have little impact on the markets," he said.

BOJ's Mieno Dismisses Effects of Rate Changes

*OW0402064591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0626 GMT
4 Feb 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 4 KYODO—Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Yasushi Mieno said Monday the central bank will go its own way in its credit steering, independent of the recent shifts in monetary policies in the United States and Germany.

Speaking at a session of the House of Representatives Budget Committee, Mieno said the BOJ will maintain its tight monetary stance, with the focus kept on monitoring the effects of the official discount rate hikes over the past couple of years.

The central bank chief welcomed the surprise hike in the German official discount rate last Thursday, which he said was intended to contain growing inflationary pressure and thus was consistent with an agreement among the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial nations to commit themselves to stabilizing the global economy.

As to the key lending rate cut by the U.S. Federal Reserve Board last Friday, the credit relaxation will not work as a damper on Japanese investors' interest in U.S. financial instruments, he said.

"In terms of long-term rates, there is still nearly a 1.5 percent gap between Japan and the United States. I believe the U.S. financial market remains attractive for

Japanese investors," he said. Mieno added that the series of moves will not cause "major friction" on financial markets.

The rate changes brought the official discount rate in Germany and the United States to 6.5 percent and 6 percent, respectively, while Japan's base rate, which the BOJ charges on loans to banks, now stands at 6 percent, after the five rounds of rate hikes since May 1989.

ANC Urges Continued Sanctions on South Africa

OW0102124191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1116 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 1 (KYODO)—The African National Congress (ANC) sought Japan's support Friday for its proposals on dismantling apartheid, and urged Tokyo to continue economic sanctions against South Africa.

Jerry Matsila, ANC chief representative to Japan, made the appeal in a letter to Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu as part of a worldwide campaign to gain international support for an ANC policy initiative endorsed at its national conference last month.

The three-point plan calls for holding a congress attended by all South African political parties to discuss ending apartheid, electing a constituent assembly on a one-person-one-vote basis to draw up a new constitution, and establishing an interim government to rule during transition to a nonracial state. Matsila also urged Japan to maintain economic sanctions in order to pressure Pretoria to meet the ANC's preconditions for negotiations.

The ANC is demanding the unconditional release of all political prisoners, an end to detention without trial, the unconditional return of exiles, and repeal of the internal security act and apartheid laws before negotiations begin.

South African President F.W. de Klerk has pledged to release political prisoners and make possible the return of exiles by April 30, and to repeal two laws that uphold racial segregation.

Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Tadanori Oshima, who received the letter on Kaifu's behalf, told Matsila that Japan supports reforms in South Africa.

Government Considers Ending Sanctions

OW0502103391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0813 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 5 (KYODO)—Japan is considering phasing out its sanctions against South Africa in light of South African President F. W. de Klerk's call on that country's parliament last Friday to repeal major apartheid laws, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Tuesday.

"We are studying the possibility of changing our position on sanctions," Spokesman Taizo Watanabe said. But Watanabe indicated that no decision on the matter

would be forthcoming until abolition of the discriminatory laws is actually realized.

Foreign Ministry sources added that Japan would not act before other major industrialized nations, as they said that might leave Japan open to "biased" overseas criticism that the decision was motivated by a drive for profit.

The sources said Japan is now watching to see when the legislation will be taken up and what the prospects are for its passage. Watanabe called the prospects "very promising."

The spokesman also stated Japan's desire to see abolition of the apartheid laws leading to talks between the government and leaders of the country's black majority, but did not indicate whether this was a condition for lifting the sanctions.

The African National Congress (ANC) has made the continuation of its talks with the government conditional on not only the repeal of apartheid laws, but of internal security laws which it says restrict political freedom. The ANC also calls for the release of all political prisoners, the return of political exiles, and suffrage for blacks, who have no vote in elections.

Officials said Japan is the only country among the major industrialized countries that restricts relations with South Africa to the consular level, though it recognizes the Pretoria government.

Other sanctions include a ban on imports of South African iron and steel, on exports of computers to apartheid-implementing agencies, on direct investment in South Africa, on direct air links, and on imports of arms.

The government also calls on Japanese companies and citizens to exercise self-restraint with respect to loans, trade, and imports of gold coins from South Africa.

Cultural, sports, and educational exchanges are restricted, while the government does not issue tourist visas to South Africans.

Chinese Group Suspected of Illegal Entry

OW0502060091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0506 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Nagasaki, Feb. 5 KYODO—Police on Tuesday arrested a group of 20 Chinese-speaking men who landed by boat near the small seaside village of Nangoshi, part of the town of Nomozaki, 23 kilometers southwest of Nagasaki, on Tuesday morning.

Local police officials said the men had been suspected of illegal entry into Japan.

Nangoshi villagers reported finding what appeared to be a dilapidated Chinese fishing boat beached on a nearby shore early Tuesday, and local officials later reported

they had detained 20 Chinese-speaking men scattered within a radius of about 5 kilometers from the boat.

A search is under way for any other persons from the boat who might be hiding in the area, police said. Investigations so far indicate the 20 men, aged between 20 and 40, departed from Fukien last Friday. They are lightly clothed in jumpers and jeans, police reported.

The 20 men were placed under arrest at a local police station after they reportedly confessed to having attempted to enter Japan in order to find work. The men said they are from Fujian province and departed from a port in the province around last Friday. Each member of the group was carrying approximately 20,000 yen cash, police said.

Papers on several of the men suggest they planned to regroup at Nagasaki station and take the Shinkansen bullet train from Fukuoka to Tokyo, police added.

Group Threatens 'Drug War' on Tokyo Firms

OW0502113291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1107 GMT
5 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 5 (KYODO)—A group calling itself "Cocaine Connection La Red Ball" has threatened a drug war in letters delivered to 16 Tokyo firms, Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) investigators said Tuesday.

The letters, delivered to mass media organizations and business groups Monday night and Tuesday morning, contained small amounts of cocaine or a cocaine-like substance, which, if genuine, would be worth 4.5 million yen, police said.

The letters were signed "Shine Katsu," apparently a takeoff on the name of Japanese actor Shintaro Katsu who was arrested in Hawaii last year for cocaine possession, police said.

Last May, similar intimidating letters written in Spanish were delivered to the MPD and National Police Agency (NPA) demanding the release of a colleague arrested in Japan and threatening punishment for Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and then MPD Chief Tachio Ohori. The most recent letters, however, were directed to the threatened companies and firms. The letters said the organization was declaring a drug war which it would carry out in Japan and California, MPD investigators said.

The organization specified 16 firms as targets for the first phase of the war, including the Tokyo Broadcasting System (TBS), newspaper giant ASAHI SHIMBUN, the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), Mitsui and Co., and the Dai-ichi Kangyo Bank.

The letters, dated January 1, 1991, were printed on a word processor and postmarked February 4 at the Akasaka post office. Each letter also contained about four grams of cocaine or a similar substance.

According to the NPA, police and customs authorities confiscated 68.8 kilograms of cocaine from smugglers last year—five times more than the previous year. A recent NPA report expressed fear that Japan has been targeted by South American drug cartels as their next lucrative market.

Early Submission of Farm Trade Platform Unlikely

OW0102061391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0427 GMT
1 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 1 KYODO—Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Motoji Kondo said Friday it will take some more time for Arthur Dunkel, chief of the world trade watchdog GATT, to present a new "platform" aimed at resuming the derailed global trade talks.

Speaking at a press conference after a regular cabinet meeting, Kondo said, "the chances are slim that the platform will be submitted soon, given his slow pace of closed-door consultations with each country."

Dunkel, director general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), is trying to develop a common ground on which governments can resume their negotiations on agricultural reforms.

The GATT-sponsored Uruguay round of multilateral trade talks collapsed in Brussels in early December due to a wide gap between the United States and the European Community (EC) over how to reduce trade-distorting farm subsidies, estimated to be running at some 220 billion dollars a year worldwide.

Kondo expressed his hope that the platform will take into account Japan's argument of food security regarding its ban on rice imports.

"I hope our request will not be totally ignored. I believe the viewpoint of food security will be included in the platform in some way or other," he said.

Voting Begins in Gubernatorial, Mayoral Elections

OW0302050391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0450 GMT
3 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 3 KYODO—Voters went to the polls Sunday for gubernatorial elections in Aomori, Ishikawa, Yamanashi, and Aichi, and mayoral elections, including those in Hiroshima and Kitakyushu, Fukuoka Prefecture, in a prelude to the nation's unified local elections in April.

Vote counting will begin immediately after polls close at 6 p.m. and results will come in the night.

In Aomori Prefecture, voters flocked to polling stations despite chilly, snowy weather. Incumbent Gov. Masaya Kitamura, 74, supported by the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Tatsuo Yamazaki, 68, a former LDP House of Councillors member, and Shigeru Kanazawa, 54, a lawyer supported by the Social Democratic Party (SDP).

formerly the Japan Socialist Party, and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP), are running for the post.

The biggest issue in the Aomori gubernatorial election is a nuclear fuel reprocessing facility now under construction in Rokkasho.

Kitamura, seeking his fourth term, supports the project while Yamazaki calls for freezing it and Kanazawa demands its cancellation.

In Ishikawa Prefecture, incumbent Yoichi Nakanishi, 73, a conservative independent, is seeking his eighth term. Nakanishi is challenged by Eitaro Sugiyama, 67, a conservative independent and former prefectural vice governor backed by the SDP, Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), and Eiichi Naito, 40, supported by the JCP. Nakanishi's long hold on the office is at issue in the election.

In Yamanashi Prefecture, four independent newcomers are running. But it is virtually a two-horse race between Sumio Ozawa, 60, a former vice governor with LDP, SDP, Komeito, and DSP support, and Ken Amano, 62, former Iwasa town mayor. Ozawa is supported by LDP heavyweight and former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru, while Amano is backed by Kunio Tanabe, an LDP member of the Diet and former governor of the prefecture.

In Aichi Prefecture, incumbent Reiji Suzuki, 62, who is seeking a third term and is supported by the LDP and noncommunist opposition parties, is being challenged by Hajime Hori, 42, backed by the JCP.

In the Hiroshima mayoral election, incumbent Takeshi Araki, 74, is challenged by seven other candidates, including Takashi Hiraoka, 63, a former journalist who is supported by the SDP, the DSP, and the United Social Democratic Party.

In Kitakyushu, incumbent Koichi Sueyoshi, 56, an independent supported by the LDP, SDP, Komeito, and the DSP, is seeking a second term and has to beat Kenko Takagi, 42, who is supported by the JCP, and Tetsuya Watanabe, 43, an independent.

KYODO Reports Results

*OW0302173091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1554 GMT
3 Feb 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 3 KYODO—All three incumbents running in gubernatorial elections in Aomori, Aichi, and Ishikawa Prefectures won easy reelections Sunday, the prelude to the unified local elections scheduled in April.

A fourth gubernatorial race, in Yamanashi Prefecture, went to a newcomer in a closely fought election between two conservative candidates.

In Hiroshima, Takashi Hiraoka, a former journalist, won the mayoral race in a free-for-all among seven candidates following the retirement of Takeshi Araki, the four-term mayor of the atomic-bombed city since 1975. Hiraoka,

63, president of Chugoku Broadcasting Co., was backed by the Social Democratic Party (SDP), known previously as the Japan Socialist Party, and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP).

All conservative candidates evaded references to the Persian Gulf war in the elections, the first since the conflict broke out on January 17.

In Ishikawa Prefecture, Yoichi Nakanishi, 73, was reelected for his eighth four-year term on an independent ticket. He garnered 310,259 votes, against 298,601 for Eitaro Sugiyama, his nearest rival in a hotly-contested race.

The voter turnout was 76.47 percent, compared to 50.23 percent in the previous election. Nakanishi is the longest-serving governor in Japan.

In Aichi Prefecture, Gov. Reiji Suzuki, 62, easily beat Hajime Hori, a new contender backed by the Japanese Communist Party (JCP), for a third consecutive term. Suzuki, 62, who ran with the joint backing of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), the SDP, Komeito, and the DSP, got 1,342,489 votes against 374,841 for Hori. The voter turnout was a record low at 36.06 percent, 6.37 points lower than the previous election.

In Aomori Prefecture, conservative incumbent Masaya Kitamura was reelected for the fourth straight term. Kitamura, 74, fielded by the LDP and backed by the DSP, defeated two rookie contenders, collecting 325,985 votes against 247,929 for Shigeo Kanazawa, the closest rival. The voter turnout was 66.4 percent, the second highest in the prefecture's history. Kitamura supported the nuclear fuel reprocessing facility now under construction in Rokkasho, a controversial issue which drew more attention from voters than the Gulf war.

Ken Amano, 62, a new conservative contender, won the Yamanashi gubernatorial election after a close fight with Sumio Ozawa, the former deputy governor. Amano collected 253,709 votes, against 248,929 for Ozawa, 60, who was backed by former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru, one of the most influential politicians within the LDP. Voter turnout was 82.36 percent, the highest of the four gubernatorial races decided Sunday.

In the Hiroshima mayoral election, Hiraoka collected 276,781 votes against 151,845 for Sugimoto, his closest rival. Voter turnout was 59.8 percent, up 9.5 points from the previous election four years ago.

Hiraoka's campaign pledge to prop up the flagging local economy under Araki's administration through improved transport networks and invigorated townships, coupled with popularity among wide local unionists and the local business community, led to his landslide victory.

In the Kitakyushu mayoral election, Mayor Koichi Sueyoshi dashed to victory over new runner Kenko Takagi 287,219 to 73,306 votes in a three-way race.

Cabinet Not To Revise Economic Policy Targets

*OW0502041991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0318 GMT
5 Feb 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 5 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's cabinet will not revise its economic policy targets despite Japan's pledge of an additional 9 billion dollar contribution to the U.S.-led multinational forces in the Persian Gulf, Michio Ochi, head of the Economic Planning Agency [EPA] said Tuesday.

Ochi, speaking at a press conference after a cabinet meeting, said disbursement of the additional aid to be made within the present fiscal year, ending March 31, is expected to trim the country's 32 billion dollar current account surplus estimated for the year.

The cabinet had set the country's economic growth target at 3.8 percent in real terms for Fiscal 1991, which begins on April 1.

"The effect of the planned tax increases on domestic prices will be a minimum, given the present levels of crude oil prices and business reactions (to the measures)," the EPA director general said.

The Kaifu cabinet has said it plans to raise taxes on petroleum, corporate earnings, and tobacco to finance the additional contributions.

Ochi had earlier indicated the extra financial contribution might force the cabinet to revise its economic policy targets for the next fiscal year. Ministries and agencies use these targets as the basis for implementation of their policies.

Cabinet Adopts Land Price Reduction Program

*OW2501022691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0153 GMT
25 Jan 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 25 KYODO—The Japanese cabinet Friday adopted an overall land price reduction and stabilization program to counter soaring land prices and to enable middle-income bracket workers to buy their own homes.

The program emphasizes the use of urban farmland for housing, a more effective utilization of urban land, and quick curbs on land purchase loans and dealings when prices are feared to jump.

At such times, areas where land prices are feared to soar will be immediately designated as special land price monitoring zones in a move to curb land trading.

The program also calls for the institution of a new land holding tax and an overhaul of the special land holding tax system.

It also proposes the possible establishment of a system of burdens on those who benefit from appreciable rises in land prices resulting from public works investment, such as the construction of a new railway station.

The ministries and agencies concerned will carry out the new program in consultation with the National Land Agency.

Reportage on Delegation's Visit to Albania

WA0402183091

For Albanian reportage on the visit by Foreign Ministry delegation led by Yushu Takashima, political vice-director general and Hideaki Domichi, director for Eastern Europe to Albania, including reports on his talks with Albanian Foreign Minister Reis Malile, please see the Albania section of the 5 February East Europe DAILY REPORT.

Mongolia

Bagabandi Leads Party Delegation to Moscow

*OW0502012891 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian
1437 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 4 Feb (MONTSAME)—An MPRP [Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party] delegation headed by N. Bagabandi, member of the Presidium and secretary of the MPRP Central Committee, left today on a working visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

The delegation was seen off at Bayant-Uhaa Airport by S. Dashdabaa and O. Hongor, members of the Presidium and secretaries of the MPRP Central Committee, and other officials.

V.I. Filippov, minister counselor of the USSR Embassy in Mongolia, was also on hand to see the delegation off.

Prime Minister Receives Buryat ASSR Official

*OW0502002691 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian
1432 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 4 Feb (MONTSAME)—Dashiyin Byambasuren, prime minister of the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] Government, today received V.B. Saganov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Soviet Buryatiya, and had a friendly talk with him.

V.B. Saganov is visiting Selenge Aymag (North Mongolia) with which the Buryat ASSR maintains direct ties.

The meeting was attended by S. Bayarbaatar, MPR minister of trade and industry, and V.I. Sitnikov, USSR ambassador to the MPR.

Leaders Condole Death of Laos' Sali Vongkhamsao

*OW0102142291 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian
1456 GMT 29 Jan 91*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 29 Jan (MONTSAME)—O. Hongor, member of the Presidium and secretary of the MPRP

[Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party] Central Committee; C. Purebdorj, vice premier of the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] Government; B. Doljintseren, MPR vice minister of external relations; and D. Bilegt, deputy chairman of the Executive Committee of the Federation of Mongolian Peace and Friendship Organizations, visited the embassy of the LPDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic] in the MPR today to express condolences in connection with the death of Sali Vongkhamhao, member of the Politburo of the LPRP [Lao People's Revolutionary Party] Central Committee, vice chairman of the LPDR Council of Ministers, minister of economics, planning, and finance, and member of the Supreme People's Assembly of the LPDR.

Preparations for MPRP Congress in 'Final Stage'

OW0502012391 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1435 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 4 Feb (MONTSAME)—According to the newspaper UNEN, preparations for the 20th congress of the MPRP [Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party], which will open on 25 February this year, are entering the final stage. Presently, conferences of city and aymag MPRP organizations are being held at which questions concerning party renewal and tasks of organizations of the ruling party under conditions of restructuring are being discussed. Participants in the party conferences are also electing delegates to the forthcoming 20th MPRP Congress.

A referendum throughout the party on certain fundamental questions that are reflected in the draft document "Concept for the Further Renewal of the MPRP" is being completed.

More than 400 delegates (one delegate for every 250 members) will take part in the regular congress of the ruling party.

State Small Hural Amends Law on Parties

OW0102141191 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1455 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 29 Jan (MONTSAME)—According to the newspaper UNEN, a review of the question on introducing additions and amendments to the law on parties gave rise to sharp discussion at the second session of the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] State Small Hural (parliament), which is continuing its work here. The question of whether party organizations should be formed on a territorial or territorial-production basis was the topic of discussion between representatives of six parties in the parliament. Eventually the proposal to create party organizations on a territorial basis, which concerns all political and social organizations with the exception of trade unions, received the majority of votes.

In accordance with amendments introduced to the law on parties it is not permitted to mention party allegiance in any documents of citizens, with the exception of

legislatively envisaged cases, without their concurrence. Government employees, when fulfilling their official responsibilities, must adhere to official duty and legal norms and not proceed from the interests of any party.

A differentiated timetable for implementing the adopted (?changes and amendments) to the law on parties has been established.

[Words indistinct] party organizations on the territorial principle in organs of the courts, procuracy, police, army, state security, and correctional labor institutions comes into force immediately after the law is ratified by the MPR President, while in other departments it comes into force from 1 July 1991. Other amendments come into force after ratification of the law.

North Korea

Formation of 'Gulf War Study Group' Analyzed

SK0502051991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—The South Korean ruling group reportedly decided to set up a "Gulf war study group" in the "Joint Chiefs of Staff" which will be active from February 6 till the end of the war.

It is said that the "group" will make a study of the "cause and background of the Gulf war" and its "instructive factors" for the reality of a divided country. With the planes and missiles of the U.S.-led multinational forces proving impotent, the "win-the-war-quick tactics" hit a snag and the Gulf war is expected to be protracted. Under this situation the South Korean ruling group formed the "study group", talking about the "state of division" and "instructive factors."

Finding it impossible to gratify his wild design to invade the North with the backing of the U.S. imperialists, his master, after they conquer the Gulf region, No Tae-u hurriedly sent "study personnel" to the war-torn area to collect "materials" and work out another operational plan for northward invasion using them as a "reference".

A radio in Seoul intimated that for this very reason the South Korean ruling group included "military officers" seeking the same purpose in the 150-member "military medical team" which was sent to the Gulf region on the instructions of its master.

South Denounced for Giving Aid to Gulf Conflict

SK0402131291 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1150 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Commentary by station commentator Chong Pong-kil: "Brigandish Demand, Servile Submission"]

[Text] Due to the protracted war in the Gulf area, the relation of master and servant between the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets is being further conspicuously revealed. According to reports, in an

exclusive interview with YONHAP on 29 January U.S. Ambassador to Seoul Donald Gregg threatened that the United States will demand of South Korea additional aid due to the protraction of the Gulf war, and that it will clearly take into consideration who helped the United States and who did not.

Before the above-mentioned interview, U.S. Senator John Glenn exaggerated that among the expenses that is spent in the Gulf war, 75 percent of it is being appropriated by the financial support of the allies; therefore, South Korea must provide more expenses. Also, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Solomon demanded that South Korea give additional aid to the Gulf war. This kind of act by the U.S. imperialists is a brigandish demand of the ruler and governor-general of the colony. The rascals are regarding the No Tae-u ring only as a colonial puppet and war servant, and this clearly shows how much they are viciously maneuvering to further deeply involve the puppets in carrying out their aggressive war.

According to the brigandish demand of the U.S. imperialists, on 29 January at Chongwadae, traitor No Tae-u summoned related secretaries and ordered them to provide a more positive supporting role towards the Gulf war. On 30 January, the puppet administration and the Democratic Liberal Party held a so-called high-level party political meeting and made a final decision to additionally support the U.S.-led Gulf War with \$280 million and five C-130 military transport planes. Therefore the overall scale of support to the Gulf war by the South Korean puppets is \$500 million and the number of personnel necessary for maintenance, pilots, communications, and navigators in the dispatch of the C-130 military transport planes will be approximately 150 persons.

Along with this, the No Tae-u ring said that it is possible for the U.S. to demand the dispatch of combat forces and that it is not making any secret about taking measures regarding this matter. This is an unforgivable act of challenge toward the South Korean people who oppose the support and dispatch of combat forces to the Gulf war which is waged by the U.S. imperialists, and this is also a manifestation of a nation-selling character which has become a habit of the colonial cat's paw, the No Tae-u ring which accepts any kind of demand submissively if it is from the U.S. imperialists.

Currently in South Korea, voices opposing the dispatch of the military medical team to the Gulf region—which the No Tae-u ring recently carried out—are being resounded resolutely. Figures from all walks of life and from the democratic movement organizations, including South Korean youths and students, are condemning and denouncing the puppet's maneuvers of dispatching the military medical team as a nation-selling criminal act which is sacrificing their fellow countrymen by using them as a shield against the U.S. imperialists.

Nevertheless, the No Tae-u ring is submitting to the brigandish demand of the U.S. imperialists and has decided once again to dispatch a great amount of funds amounting to \$280 million, military planes, and a supply force of 150 soldiers along with the dispatch of the military medical team to the Gulf area. This shows that the No Tae-u ring has no consideration for the demands of South Korean people but is carrying out a treacherous act which only the top cat's paw of the U.S. imperialists can do if it is for its master, the United States.

Originally, traitor No Tae-u is a servant who was tamed by clinging to the clothes of its master—the U.S. imperialists—and by eating the crumbs of the bread which they threw. Therefore, when the master ordered to suppress the Kwangju uprising with an iron fist, the rascal did not hesitate to kill tens of thousands of fellow countrymen all at once; when the United States ordered him to open up the market he completely opened up the South Korean market, putting the South Korean economy completely into the jaws of the United States. Also, because the United States ordered traitor No Tae-u to support the Gulf war, today he is sacrificing his fellow countrymen as cannon fodder for the war of the U.S. imperialists.

The No Tae-u ring thinks that whether the South Korean people die or not, if it receives much more special trust from their servant the United States, then nothing else matters so long as they can satisfy their enjoyment and desire for power. The ones who will in reality be sacrificed because of the maneuvers to dispatch the combat forces by the puppets are the South Korean youths and men; the South Korean people will also have to bear the burden of the support funds. The reason that the puppets are forcing the South Korean people to lead an austere life with regard to the Gulf war is to rake up more funds for the war so that this can be dedicated to the United States.

At the price of laying this kind of unhappiness and calamity for the South Korean people, the No Tae-u ring received positive patronage and support for power by the U.S. imperialists, thus settling the danger of the shaking colonial rule. It is also working to lay down the system for long-term power.

During the upcoming two years, the No Tae-u ring will have to carry out elections for the local deputies assemblies, the heads of the local autonomous organizations, the lawmakers for the National Assembly, and the puppet president elections. It is expected that through this opportunity, anti-dictatorial and anti-No Tae-u struggles will be further carried out vigorously in South Korea. Therefore, the No Tae-u ring wants support from the U.S. imperialists to prolong its regime. In order to achieve this, the No Tae-u ring is throwing themselves into the U.S. imperialists' Gulf war with enthusiasm.

This, however, cannot be the way out. There is only the people's severe judgment of the rascals who hope to survive by groveling before foreign forces. Before the South Korean people carry out further resistance, the No

Tae-u ring must stop at once the support and dispatch of the combat troops to the Gulf war of the U.S. imperialists.

South's Urging of 'Thrift and Frugality' Examined

*SK2701094691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0810 GMT 27 Jan 91*

["Treacherous Outbursts of South Korean Authorities"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 27 (KCNA)—The South Korean "prime minister" told "a cabinet meeting" on January 24 that "thrift and frugality" should be practised and made daily "habits" as the Gulf war is likely to be protracted, according to a radio report from Seoul.

Earlier, on January 23, the "deputy prime minister" called for promoting "labour-management stability" and "policy of durable industrial peace" in order to overcome a difficult phase of enormous economic consequences arising from the gulf situation.

This reveals the anti-popular, treacherous nature of the South Korean authorities who force the toiling masses to tighten their belts while funding a colossal amount of money made with the sweat and blood of the people for the Gulf war in compliance with the demand of the U.S. imperialists. It shows that they are trying to suppress and destroy the patriotic pro-democracy forces and achieve "stability" of their fascist rule under the cloak of "labour-management stability."

Kim Il-song Receives Message From Benin President

*SK0502044391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0411 GMT 5 Feb 91*

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a solidarity message from Mathieu Kerekou, president and head of state of the Republic of Benin.

He in the message dated January 29 warmly hailed the new proposals for the peaceful reunification of Korea put forward by President Kim Il-song in his new year address.

He extended invariable support to the Korean people who are struggling to achieve peace and national unity and build a reunified country under the wise leadership of President Kim Il-song.

Kim Il-song Condoles Sihanouk on Relative's Death

*SK0202154191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1516 GMT 2 Feb 91*

[Text] Pyongyang February 2 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Friday sent a message of condolence to His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Cambodia, upon the death of his mother-in-law Madame Pomme Peang [name as received].

Upon hearing the sad news that Madame Pomme Peang died after a long illness, President Kim Il-song expressed deep condolences to Samdech and Madame Princess Monique Sihanouk.

Unity of Leadership, Party, Masses Emphasized

*SK2801060091 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0512 GMT 28 Jan 91*

["Solid Unity Based on Revolutionary Comradeship Is Source of Indestructibility of Our Socialism"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 28 (KCNA)—All the party members and other working people must further strengthen the unity and cohesion of the leader, the party and the masses and build socialism of our own style better by giving fuller play to the spirit of unity based on comradeship, stresses NODONG SINMUN in a by-liner Sunday.

The article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as teaching:

"In our country everyone exercises equal and independent rights as a genuine master of the state and society, and all the people develop their creative wisdom and talent helping and leading one another forward as comrades on the principle of 'one for all and all for one'".

The article says:

Revolutionary comradeship is a noble trait of communist revolutionaries of chuche type and a noble ideological and moral trait of men in our era.

It, first of all, fully meets man's collectivist demand in our socialist society.

It brings the advantages of our society, the embodiment of the collectivist demand, into fuller play. It is because revolutionary comradeship makes all the people in our society enjoy a life worthy of social beings.

Revolutionary comradeship also makes it possible to further cement the close unity and cohesion of the entire people behind the party and the leader.

It is displayed at the highest level in the relations between the leader and his men.

It is an ideological basis for thoroughly guaranteeing the firmness of the centre of the unity and cohesion and the purity of ideology.

Revolutionary comradeship is fully displayed with the leader as the centre. The people truly hold their leader in high esteem remaining boundlessly faithful to him, and establish comradely relations based on loyalty to the leader.

The party and the leader always believe in the inexhaustible strength of the popular masses and struggle in reliance upon them and the people firmly trust the party and the

leader as their heart and brain, sharing death and life with them. Thus, the leader, the party and the masses are closely united on the basis of revolutionary comradeship. The source of the might of our socialism and its indestructibility lies in that the leader, the party and the masses are united with one mind not only in ideology and purpose but also with a high sense of moral obligation.

The trait of comradesly unity makes it possible to increase the might of the driving force of the revolution in every way so as to push ahead with socialist construction.

Revolutionary comradeship is fully displayed between the leader and his men, between the leader and the people on the road of revolution, and it becomes a strong motive force of the revolutionary cause.

Revolutionary comradeship is the source of durability and indestructibility of the socialist system. When revolutionary comradeship becomes prevalent in society the people work full of revolutionary optimism and energy and socialist construction makes a faster progress.

Today socialist construction in our country is vigorously advancing because the entire people are firmly united around the party and the leader on the basis of revolutionary comradeship.

The revolutionary sense of obligation and comradeship are deeply rooted in the hearts of our people and are highly displayed in our revolutionary practice. It serves as a strong impetus to further consolidate and develop our socialism and bring its advantages into full play.

Daily Calls on People To Uphold Party Leadership

*SK2801065391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0522 GMT 28 Jan 91*

[Text] Pyongyang January 28 (KCNA)—We must advance under the uplifted banner of independence against imperialism, upholding the wise leadership of our great party without the slightest vacillation no matter what wind and which way it may blow, says NODONG SINMUN in an editorial today.

The editorial quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"The world progressive people must not be deceived by the imperialists' honeyed words, pin their hopes on their deceptive 'aid' but forge ahead under the unfurled banner of independence against imperialism."

The editorial reads in part:

It is inevitable that the cause of socialism triumphs and imperialism goes to ruin. Imperialism, however, would never withdraw from the scene of history of its own accord. History shows that it is impossible to think of freedom and happiness of the people, peace and security of the world and victory of the cause of socialism without fighting it out against imperialism.

It is important, above all, to have a correct understanding of the true features of imperialism and its fate.

We must clearly realize that the desperate moves of the imperialists in different parts of the world are by no means a manifestation of their mightiness but a revelation of their vulnerability.

Contrary to what the imperialist mouthpieces advertise, capitalism is not prospering but becoming all the more corrupt and reactionary in all spheres of material life, moral and cultural life and political life. Well aware that as the reactionary, anti-popular nature of imperialism becomes all the more pronounced it is rushing headlong toward self-destruction, we must fight valiantly and steadfastly all manner of the imperialists' counterrevolutionary offensive.

It is also important for all the party members and other working people to realize clearly that the aggressive and predatory nature of imperialism will never change.

At present, the imperialists are acting more outrageously, launching piratic armed aggression against sovereign countries without hesitation, and are craftily manoeuvring to bring other countries into the sphere of their domination and plunder in the name of "aid" and "cooperation."

We must clearly see through the deceptive and crafty nature of the imperialists' honeyed words and wage an uncompromising struggle against them.

The imperialists are resorting to heinous and crafty methods of military threats and blackmail, economic bribery and subjugation and ideological and cultural disorganization by which to bring the peoples of socialist countries and the world's progressive people under their control. The people, however, will never be taken in by them or harbour any illusion over them.

In order to smash the imperialists' counterrevolutionary offensive, it is necessary to firmly adhere to the revolutionary principles.

Our people are forging ahead with the revolution triumphantly without turns and twists, always upholding the banner of socialism, although they are engaged in the revolution in a place of confrontation on which the U.S.-led imperialists' offensive is concentrated and where the struggle between imperialism and socialism is most acute. This is because they firmly keep to the revolutionary principles.

We will in the future, too, firmly defend and implement the revolutionary principles, the principles of socialism and thus safeguard the cause of socialism and smash the enemy's counterrevolutionary offensive with a revolutionary offensive.

The decisive factor of victory in the anti-imperialist struggle lies in steel-like unity and cohesion of all the people behind the party, the editorial says, and stresses:

All the party members and other working people must uphold the party's leadership always with the unshakable conviction that they would surely win victory, come what may, as long as our party organizing and leading the cause of independence against imperialism only to victory stands in their van.

Daily Urges Adding 'Shine to Our Socialism'

*SK0502103491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0958 GMT 5 Feb 91*

[**"NODONG SINMUN Calls for Adding Shine to Our Socialism"**—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comes out with an editorial titled "Let Us Add Shine to Our Socialism With High Sense of Pride and Honor".

The editorial quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"This year, we are faced with a heavy task of displaying higher the advantages of socialism in our country by forcefully accelerating socialist construction to meet the requirements of the present situation and our developing revolution."

To bring the advantages of our socialism into full play by powerfully pushing ahead with socialist construction is requirements of the developing revolution and an honorable task with which our people are entrusted by the time and history.

Socialist construction in our country has reached a high stage.

We must feel due pride and honor in having achieved the victory of socialism through a rugged and complicated path and successfully carry on socialist construction, deeply aware of our responsibility and mission.

Just as our socialism that has struck its deep roots in this land and the happy socialist, new life of the people were brought by the unexampled devotion and heroic struggle of the revolutionary forerunners and old generations, so the complete victory of socialism and the final victory of the revolution can be won only by our devoted struggle.

Only when they powerfully accelerate socialist construction so as to increase the might of our socialism and fully display its advantages, can our party members and working people discharge their revolutionary duty and truly contribute to the revolutionary cause of *chuche*.

We must continue to vigorously promote socialist construction not only for the victory of our revolution but also for the human cause of independence.

When the song of triumphant socialist construction rings out loudly, the imperialists' anti-DPRK, anti-socialist moves will be impotent and the attraction and vitality of

the *chuche* idea will be fully demonstrated [word indistinct] with the revolutionary principle and the achievements in socialist construction we must deal a blow at the imperialists' schemes to demonstrate "superiority" of capitalism and keep them from throwing their weight about.

We, true to the intention of the party and the leader, must display the mettle of our people and display further the honor of Korea of *chuche* by stirring up ourselves in a revolutionary way and effecting a new upsurge in socialist construction.

In order to push ahead with socialist construction with pride and honor in our socialism, the entire party members and working people must have firm faith in the superiority of socialism of our style to which the *chuche* idea has been applied, adhere to the revolutionary principle and strictly embody the socialist method.

They must also successfully carry out the tasks set forth by the party, strengthen the driving force of the revolution and give full play to its might with a high sense of pride and confidence, the editorial stresses.

Daily Claims Socialist Development Inevitable

*SK0502114591 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1026 GMT 5 Feb 91*

[**"Independence, Socialism Is Road To Be Followed by Mankind"**—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—There may be temporary setbacks, turns and twists in the advance of history, but it is an immutable law that mankind follows the road of independence, the road of socialism, stresses NODONG SINMUN today in a by-lined article. The article says: It is an inevitability of the development of history that socialism, the new, will emerge victorious in the struggle against capitalism. Whatever disguise capitalism may appear in, it is, in essence, a system of exploitation and oppression. Only under socialist society can the popular masses hold the position of masters and play their role as such in all spheres of politics, the economy and culture. Socialist society is a new society catering to the independent nature of the popular masses and requirements of the developing society. The road to socialism, the road to independence is a track of history and it is a historical trend that mankind takes that road. If deviations, turns and twists that may crop up in the course of blazing the trail of socialism are attributable to policies and lines of socialist country they will seriously affect socialist construction and might result in threatening even the existence of the socialist state itself. While taking an untrodden, difficult path, socialism may face difficulties or undergo turns and twists. The point is how to overcome them and how to continue pressing ahead with the cause of socialism. If we choose to resolve matters by capitalist methods, abandoning the principle of socialism in face of the difficulties that may arise in building socialism, we will be unable to overcome difficulties and it will benumb the advantages of socialism, create confusion and endanger even the gains of the revolution. The reality shows that we

can ensure the triumphant advance of the cause of socialism when we steadfastly maintain the principle of socialism, the revolutionary principle, and hold high the banner of socialism although the situation is complex and the reactionary offensive is intensifying. To depart from the track of history, abandoning the principle, overcome by difficulties, is the road to failure, but to adhere to the truth and principle and follow the trend of history is the road to victory. This is a lesson taught mankind by the present times when a complex struggle is going on between the new and the old and between progress and reaction.

Chuche-Orientated Theory of Party Building Viewed

*SK0202130191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1032 GMT 2 Feb 91*

[Text] Pyongyang February 2 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comes out with a by-lined article titled "Original Ideology and Theory Which Indicate Correct Road of Building Revolutionary Party in Our Era".

The article quotes the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as saying:

"The chuche-orientated theory of party building founded by the great leader and inherited and developed by our party is a chuche-based theory of party building evolved on the basis of the chuche idea, a new guiding idea of revolution, and an encyclopedic theory of party building in which all the experiences of the party's activities in different revolutionary stages and fighting conditions are comprehensively consummated".

The article reads in part:

Our party's theory of party building is above all a chuche-based theory for the building of a party based on essential nature of man and the principle of the socio-historical movement, the independent and creative movement of the popular masses, which were expounded by the chuche idea.

The chuche idea is the first in history to give a scientific exposition of the essential nature of man (independence, creativity and consciousness) and elucidate anew the principle of the socio-historical movement, an independent, creative and conscious movement of the popular masses.

Basing itself on such fundamental principles of the chuche idea, our party is evolving and developing in depth in a unique way the theory of building a working class party. Thus, our theory of party building has become a complete theory which has evolved and systematized all the problems of party building including the principle of the party's organizational and ideological building on the basis of the fundamental principles of the chuche idea.

Our party's theory of party building is an encyclopedic guideline which gives flawless answers to all the questions arising in party building on the basis of the monolithic ideological system from the question of building a party to the questions of strengthening the organization

and discipline of the party, establishing a chuche-orientated party work method and enforcing the political leadership over the society.

Our party scientifically expounded the position and role of the leader in accomplishing the revolutionary cause of the working class and, on this basis, comprehensively systematized the theory of the establishment of the party's monolithic ideological system.

The chuche-orientated theory of party building gives comprehensive answers to the question of building a popular party, the principled demand and ways of strengthening the working class party into a militant party strong in organization and discipline, the principle and method of the party work with main stress on the work with man, and the nature and principle of the party's leadership over the revolution and construction and its methods. The chuche-orientated theory of party building, among other things, gives comprehensive scientific and theoretical answers to the question of succeeding the party's leadership and all other questions arising in building and developing a party under a far-reaching plan.

The chuche-orientated theory of party building expounds that the party is the guiding force of the communist society and set out the question of succeeding the party leadership as one of the basic problems of party building.

Only when a successor boundlessly faithful to the leader, who founded a revolutionary party of the working class and pioneered the revolution and possessed of the quality and ability to successfully carry forward the cause of the leader is put up and his guiding system is established, can the party invariably adhere to the revolutionary cause pioneered by the leader and carry it to accomplishment.

The chuche-orientated theory of party building is successfully applied through the struggle for the building of our party and for its strengthening and development, and its validity and vitality are fully proved in this course.

Our party under the wise leadership of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il has waged a struggle to embody the chuche-orientated theory of party building, winning a proud victory and performing undying feats in party building.

Our party conducted a powerful struggle to establish a monolithic ideological system in the whole party and thus thoroughly established the ideological system and guiding system of the leader in the whole party and achieved a most solid unity and cohesion.

Today, our party has fully assumed the appearance of a chuche-type party in all aspects from its character and ideological system to the unity of the ranks in ideology and purpose, organization, discipline, working method and style and the ties with the masses.

Foreign Leaders Convey Support to Reunification*SK2901154491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1507 GMT 29 Jan 91*

[Text] Pyongyang January 29 (KCNA)—Leaders of foreign countries supported the proposal for reunification through confederation put forward by the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Korea is a country where the entire people are closely united on the basis of the *chuche* idea founded by the great leader His Excellency President Kim Il-song, said Benin President Mathieu Kerekou when he met the Korean ambassador to his country who paid a farewell call on him.

He stressed that Benin supports respected His Excellency President Kim Il-song's proposal for reunification by means of confederation that guarantees a complete solution of the national reunification question and proposal for convening a political consultative conference for national reunification to carry it into effect.

Aneerood Jugnauth, prime minister of Mauritius, when he met the Korean ambassador to his country, said he hoped Korea would be reunified at an early date according to the proposal for reunification by means of confederation put forward by the great leader His Excellency Kim Il-song in his new year address.

Florizel A. Glasspole, governor-general of Jamaica, emphasized that Jamaica supports the proposal for founding a democratic confederal republic of Koryo to reunify the country, saying Korea must be reunified, when he met the Korean ambassador to his country who was paying a farewell call on him.

Cuba Sends Message of Support*SK0502050691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0420 GMT 5 Feb 91*

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—Foreign Minister of the Republic of Cuba Isidoro Malmierca Peoli in a solidarity message to Korean Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam said that the new reunification proposal advanced by Comrade Kim Il-song in his new year address shows an important way of guaranteeing peace and detente in Korea.

We express support and solidarity once again for the constructive proposals put forward by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to ensure peace and detente on the Korean peninsula and achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, for the initiatives to accelerate the independent reunification of the country including the proposals of adopting a nonaggression declaration between the North and the South, signing a peace agreement between the DPRK and the United States and drastically reducing armed forces of the North and the South, the message stresses.

Daily Urges Adoption of Nonaggression Declaration*SK2801113991 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1028 GMT 28 Jan 91*

[“Nonaggression Declaration is Starting-point In Opening New Phase for Peace and Reunification”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 28 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comes out with a by-lined article titled “Nonaggression Declaration is Starting-point in Opening New Phase for Peace and Reunification.”

The article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

“The adoption of the nonaggression declaration is a starting-point in removing distrust and confrontation between the North and South and in opening up a new phase for peace and peaceful reunification.”

It continues:

The deep-rooted distrust between the North and South traces its origin to military confrontation.

Without removing military confrontation, it is impossible to achieve a durable peace and national reunification.

In order to dispel distrust and military confrontation obstructive to national reunification, it is imperative to adopt a nonaggression declaration first of all. The declaration is a promise of nonaggression and a guarantee of mutual security.

Proceeding from the earnest desire to remove deep-rooted misunderstanding and distrust between the North and South and promote peace and peaceful reunification of the country, we have already put in the foreground the nonaggression question and other matters arising in removing the military confrontation and have long since made sincere efforts to carry them into effect.

At last year's rounds of North-South high-level talks, too, we raised the question of the adoption of a nonaggression declaration as a crucial matter to be solved before anything else and have exerted patient efforts to this end.

The South Korean authorities, however, have openly challenged the sincere efforts of ours and the desire of the nation for reunification.

They, instead of accepting our just proposal for the adoption of a nonaggression declaration, have created deliberate obstacles to the talks, laying down a precondition, namely “priority to confidence-building”.

The nonaggression declaration is not a matter to be solved after confidence-building but the starting-point in building up confidence and the most important guarantee of it.

The South Korean authorities' concept of “priority to confidence-building” is an excuse to avoid the adoption

of a nonaggression declaration and is a transparent subterfuge to win popular confidence by creating the impression that they have willingness to solve "humanitarian problems" that cause a pang in the hearts of the fellow countrymen.

Their avoidance of the adoption of the nonaggression declaration shows that "peace", "termination of the cold war" and "nonaggression" about which they have been loud-mouthed are all lies and "threat from the North" over which they raise such outcries is nothing but a fiction. It also proves that the South Korean rulers are dreaming of "reunifying the country by prevailing over communism" with the force of arms in league with outside forces. Our proposal for the adoption of a nonaggression declaration comprehensively incorporate disarmament steps and ways to carry them into practice, together with a promise of nonaggression.

The South Korean authorities must respond to this just proposal of ours without no more delay.

Daily Urges Release of Detainees in South

SK2701093991 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0818 GMT 27 Jan 91

["Repressive Offensive To Destroy Pro-reunification Forces"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 27 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today demands the immediate release of detainees in South Korea, urging the No Tae-u ruling group to promptly stop its criminal repressive offensive against the forces for reunification and democracy.

On January 24, the No Tae-u ruling group arrested or put on the want list Yi Chang-pok, permanent chairman of the South side's promotion headquarters of the pan-national rally, and four leading figures of the Coalition for National Democratic Movement (Chonminnyon) on charges of violation of the "National Security Law." On January 29" it forced the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan who was elected chairman of the preparatory committee of the South side's headquarters of the Pan-national Alliance for Reunification (Pomminnyon) [Pnn] not to attend the inaugural meeting of the preparatory committee that day, placing him under house arrest. And it staged a first trial of Song Kap-sok, chairman of the National Council of Student Representatives (Chon-daehyop), and one other patriotic student.

Condemning this as an unpardonable anti-democratic, anti-reunification criminal act designed to suppress and obliterate all the forces of reunification and democracy in South Korea and thereby defuse the crisis of its fascist dictatorial rule, lay a solid foundation for its long-term office and perpetuate national division, the news analyst says:

The South Korean ruling quarters charged the leading figures of Chonminnyon with forming the South side's promotion headquarters of the Pnn and sending their delegates abroad to participate in the inaugural meeting

of Pomminnyon. This headquarters is a legitimate reunification movement organization which they themselves recognized after having direct contacts and negotiations on the threshold of the Pnn last year. It is a legitimate right and entirely natural thing for such lawful reunification movement organizations to send its delegates to a nationwide meeting abroad.

While failing to show any zeal in North-South dialogue, the fascist ruling group not only has barred compatriots in the North and South from contacting each other for national reunification but even regards it as a crime to meet with fellow countrymen abroad to discuss the reunification question. This reveals the separatist stance of those who do not want reunification.

The No Tae-u ruling group is instilling in the people the consciousness of crisis with the outbreak of the Gulf war and has placed the whole areas of South Korea under "an emergency wartime system", while intensifying fascist crackdown with outcries over "stability," the news analyst says, and stresses:

No bayonet suppression of the authorities, however, can break the reunification will of the South Korean people.

South's Break-Up of Radio Station Strike Viewed

SK2701094191 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0813 GMT 27 Jan 91

["Fascist Sword-Brandishing Against Progressive Press"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 27 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today raps at the No Tae-u group's high-handed repression of the progressive press.

The No Tae-u ruling group on January 24 drove combat police to brandish the sword against the unionists of the Pyonghwa Broadcasting Corp. who were holding a sit-in strike in demand of the reinstatement of their unreasonably dismissed fellows and the resignation of the venal director. They whisked away 28 of them.

This is an epileptic fit of the fascist maniacs lost to reason, an unpardonable outrage against freedom and democracy of the press and an outspoken challenge to justice and conscience, the news analyst says, and goes on:

What should not be overlooked is the fact that they committed this outrage, while intensifying as never before their repressive rampage against people of broad strata who call for independence, democracy and reunification after placing South Korea under "an emergency wartime system" with the outbreak of the Gulf war. This furnishes proof that the No group, flurried by the activities of progressive men of the press gaining momentum, is directing the sharp edge of the spearhead of their suppression against them.

The South Korean authorities' fascist suppression of the unionists of Pyonghwa Broadcasting Corp. vividly shows

the limit of their ruling capacity and death-bed symptoms; they cannot maintain their power even a moment without recourse to the sword.

The No Tae-u ruling group must stop suppressing the people and pressmen who call for independence, democracy and reunification and release without delay all the unwarrantably arrested people.

Continued Reaction to 'Team Spirit' Exercises

Aerial Exercises Reported

*SK0502050091 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0424 GMT 5 Feb 91*

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists sent an E-3A early warning plane to the air above the military demarcation line from Kadena base in Okinawa at around 09:05 Monday and let it commit electronic reconnaissance on the strategic depths of the Northern half of Korea and objects in an expansive area, making a shuttle flight for a long time between the east and west coasts, according to military sources.

They brought a U-2 high-altitude strategic reconnaissance plane to the sky above the area of the Military Demarcation Line [MDL] from 06:30 to 15:05 Sunday and let it persistently commit photographic reconnaissance on operational objects of our side, repeatedly flying between the east and west coasts. Their flights numbered 40 in January alone.

The U.S. imperialists let RV-1, RC-12, RF-4 planes and other tactical reconnaissance planes fly above the area of the MDL every day and intensively conduct aerial photographic and radiolocating reconnaissance on tactical objects of the forward area of our side.

Their aerial espionage by all types of reconnaissance planes totalled 180 times in January alone.

U.S. 'To Pay Dearly' for Attack

*SK0502062691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0444 GMT 5 Feb 91*

[“Team Spirit’ Is Maneuvers For Nuclear Attack on North”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—If the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets dared provoke a war of aggression against us, they would have to pay dearly for it, warns NODONG SINMUN today in a commentary entitled “Team Spirit’ Is Maneuvers For Nuclear Attack on North.”

The news analyst says:

The “Team Spirit” exercises are, to all intents and purposes, an offensive war gamble and nuclear maneuvers aimed at staging a northward invasion by massing not only the U.S. forces present in South Korea and the puppet army but also the U.S. imperialist aggression

forces from the U.S. mainland and Pacific bases and setting in motion a large number of nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea.

The offensive nature of the “Team Spirit” is borne out by the 15 rounds of war gambles till last year from 1976.

In recent years, the U.S. forces present in South Korea and the puppet army, more than 200,000 U.S. troops, hundreds of warships, over 2,000 warplanes, 1,200 tanks and 25,000 military vehicles from the U.S. mainland and Pacific bases have been mobilized in the “Team Spirit” joint military exercises annually. They are huge armed forces enough to stage a big war.

All the military operations of the “Team Spirit” are operational actions aimed at mounting an allout nuclear attack on the frontline and rear of the northern half of Korea at one and the same time.

“Team Spirit” is a war gamble which brings no good but only harm. It may lead to a rupture of hardwon North-South dialogues on the Korean peninsula all at once, bringing only dark clouds of nuclear war to it.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are staging the “Team Spirit 91” joint military maneuvers after proclaiming “an emergency wartime system” across South Korea and keeping the U.S. forces and the puppet army in “readiness for emergency mobilization” with the outbreak of the Gulf war.

This tells that this year’s “Team Spirit” is assuming more dangerous nature than ever before.

This is all the more serious in view of the fact that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets have completed preparations for a nuclear war against the North through their war maneuvers.

The situation shows that the U.S. imperialist aggressors are scheming to ignite the train of an allout war against the North while pretending to stage a war game after introducing a large force of troops on the pretext of “Team Spirit” and massing them near the Military Demarcation Line by availing themselves of the de facto wartime system proclaimed across South Korea.

The U.S. imperialists must not run riot but discontinue the nuclear war exercises against the North at once.

South’s Citizens Reject Exercise

*SK0502114291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1016 GMT 5 Feb 91*

[“Team Spirit 91’ Under Fire in South Korea”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—Voices rejecting the criminal “Team Spirit 91” joint military exercises of the United States and the South Korean authorities are ringing out ever louder from among the South Korean people and students. There is no doubt that the “Team Spirit” joint military exercises are a preliminary war and

test nuclear war for destroying our nation either in view of their aim and nature or in view of their scale, an intellectual said, and went on: Although the U.S. authorities describe the military exercises as "defensive," the "Chongwadae" [South Korean presidential residence] group openly blares that it is meant to mislead the world public opinion and they are virtually exercises to conquer the North. The authorities do not bother to conceal the fact that they cannot occupy the North unless they attack it by taking advantage of the presence of U.S. forces in South Korea. This is, indeed, a foolish dream of "march North for unification." A journalist in Seoul said: When people in the South sit together these days they never forget to criticize the United States and the authorities for staging the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises. Since it has become clear that its plan to carry out the Gulf war by blitzkrieg is a miscalculation, the United States seems to be intending to form the second front on the Korean peninsula. Many South Korean people consider that herein lies the greater danger of the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises. A student in Seoul said: The South Korean authorities evaded settling the military issue, contending that the question of nonaggression should be solved after "building confidence" by giving priority to exchange and cooperation. And they would not pay heed to the issue of discontinuing the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises. Nobody knows when and what disaster will befall the fellow countrymen in the North and the South, if the present rulers following the United States are left alone.

Asian Chuche Group Comments

SK0502044791 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0413 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—The Asian Regional Institute of the Chuche Idea released a statement on January 29 denouncing the aggressive "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities.

The reckless military manoeuvres of the United States and the South Korean authorities are an unbearable challenge to the government and people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and an unpardonable criminal act against the world people who want the reunification of Korea, the statement says, and continues:

The "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises may lead to a rupture of inter-Korean dialogues including the North-South high-level talks arranged by the sincere efforts of the DPRK Government.

The United States and the South Korean authorities are staging the military exercises in defiance of protests and denunciation from the Korean people and the world's peaceloving people. They seek in this to realise "unification by prevailing over communism" even by means of strength if their strategy of "peaceful transition" aimed at destroying socialist system does not work in Korea.

We bitterly condemn the reckless war exercises of the United States and the South Korean authorities as a violation of peace in Asia and the rest of the world and demand an immediate halt to them.

Statement UN 'Official Document'

SK0502044691 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0417 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—The January 26, 1991, statement of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea denouncing the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities was distributed as official document of the United Nations Security Council S-22167 on January 29.

Kim Yong-nam Discusses Talks With Japanese Press

SK0502060091 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean*
2200 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] At the Mansudae Assembly Hall yesterday, Kim Yong-nam, vice premier and minister of foreign affairs, met the Japanese who had come to our country to gather news reports on the first round of the intergovernmental full-dress talks for the normalization of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations.

While answering reporters' questions, he mentioned the issue of concluding a nuclear safeguards accord between the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] and us. He said that our position is to sign a nuclear safeguards accord, adding that the problem is the U.S. nuclear threat. He went on to stress: We are willing to open the door to DPRK-U.S. negotiations by all means and to settle this issue as soon as possible. This is not an issue to be discussed between the DPRK and Japan. If Japan is interested, we think it desirable for it to advise the United States, which is close to it, so that DPRK-U.S. negotiations may be arranged as soon as possible.

He said that a guarantee of the safety of the non-nuclear nations is a precondition to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Thus, the obligations of the non-nuclear nations under the treaty should be preceded by the nuclear nations' fulfillment of their obligations stipulated in the treaty.

In saying that specific conditions must be guaranteed to conclude a nuclear safeguards accord because we are under a direct U.S. nuclear threat, he noted that the removal of the U.S. nuclear threat to us and a commitment to the legal guarantee of security are something outside the IAEA's authority. He said that this is a problem which must be solved by the United States. Accordingly, this is why we demand the removal of the U.S. nuclear threat and a commitment to the legal guarantee of security. He stressed that this is our legal right under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to which we are a signatory.

He also said that we can sign a nuclear safeguards accord if the nuclear threat is removed and a legal guarantee of

security is given, stating that we cannot sign a nuclear safeguards accord at the expense of the nation's sovereignty, the nation's right to exist, and the nation's security. He further said that the U.S. nuclear bases in South Korea must be inspected as well in case of a nuclear inspection of us.

In answering the reporters' questions regarding the normalization of DPRK-Japanese relations and the question of cross-recognition, he stated that diplomatic relations are not like trade and commercial relations, like selling and buying goods. It is senseless to regard cross-recognition in diplomatic relations like cargo; cross-recognition is a grossly mistaken notion which has never been and can never be found in the history of world diplomacy. He said the problem is that, nevertheless, the term is being used for the Korean issue. This, he maintained, is a trick which major powers use to encroach upon the interests of small nations by regarding them as the subject of bargain.

He stated that he never considers Japan's willingness to normalize DPRK-Japanese relations as a perpetuation of Korea's division. While declaring that there is no change in our position of opposing two Koreas, he said that, as is noted in the three-party declaration, Korea is one from the beginning; North and South must be reunified into one without fail; and state relations must be established precisely on this premise.

He explained the first round of the intergovernmental full-dress talks for the normalization of DPRK-Japanese diplomatic relations, the issue of compensation for the 45-year postwar period, the foreign policy of the government of our Republic, the Japanese Government's diplomatic document of apology, and the North-South high-level talks.

Yon Hyong-muk's Activities in Indonesia Noted

*SK0502130791 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2100 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Text] Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, our country's premier of the State Administration Council who is paying an official goodwill visit to Indonesia, on 1 February paid a courtesy call on Indonesian Vice President Sudharmono. Present there were Kim Pok-sin, vice premier of the State Administration Council; Chong Song-nam, minister of external economic affairs; Cho Kyu-il, vice foreign minister; and our country's ambassador to Indonesia. Also on hand were Murdani, acting Indonesian foreign minister and minister of defense and security, and the Indonesian ambassador appointed to our country.

Talks proceeded in an amicable atmosphere.

On 2 February, the premier and his entourage laid wreaths on the tombs of Indonesian national heroes. The premier and his entourage also toured (Sandratix) spinning plant and (Puritavihari) shipyard. Some other members of the entourage attended a meeting organized by the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce.

On 3 February, our country's premier and his entourage toured (Tsukspan) park and inspected the Indonesian Folk Museum in the park.

Following this, Premier Yon Hyong-muk planted a tree in the bird park and appreciated an Indonesian film, "Beautiful Indonesia." The Indonesian minister of education and culture and the Indonesian ambassador to our country accompanied the premier and his entourage.

The premier and his entourage arrived in Bandung that same day by airplane. At the airport, the governor of West Java Province, the mayor of Bandung, and the commander of the Bandung Garrison Command greeted the premier and his entourage. The premier and his entourage toured the Asian-African exhibition in Bandung. They were invited to a luncheon arranged by the governor of West Java Province.

Our country's vice foreign minister on 2 February held talks with director of a research and development institute of the Foreign Ministry. On 3 February, he held a press conference.

Premier Concludes Visit

*SK0502121491 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2100 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Text] Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the DPRK Administration Council, wound up his visit to Indonesia and left the Indonesian capital of Jakarta yesterday by airplane.

Kim Pok-sin, vice premier of the Administration Council; Chong song-nam, minister of the external economic affairs; Cho Kyu-il, vice minister of the foreign affairs; and other suite members left Jakarta with the premier.

At the airport, Murdani, acting minister of Indonesian foreign affairs and minister of defense and security; the vice mayor of Jakarta; the garrison commander of Jakarta; the Indonesian ambassador to our country; and other functionaries concerned saw off the premier's entourage. Also present were Han Pong-ha, our country's ambassador to Indonesia, and embassy officials.

Our country's flag and the Indonesian flag were raised at the airport.

Sports Delegation Departs for Games in Iran

*SK0502112591 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1036 GMT 5 Feb 91*

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—A sports delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea headed by Kim Yu-sun, chairman of the State Sports Commission, left Pyongyang today by air to participate in the functions of international sports games marking the 12th anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran.

It was seen off at the airport by Pak Myong-chol, first vice-chairman of the State Sports Commission, Hassan

Dabir, Iranian ambassador to Korea, and an official of the Chinese Embassy in Pyongyang.

Vice Premier Meets With Romanian Trade Official

*SK2801062991 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0556 GMT 28 Jan 91*

[Text] Pyongyang January 28 (KCNA)—Vice-premier Kim Tal-hyon met and had a friendly conversation at the Mansudae Assembly Hall Sunday with the Romanian Government trade delegation led by Napoleon Pop, secretary of state at the Ministry of Commerce and Tourism.

Present there were Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade Song Hui-chol and Romanian Ambassador to Korea Aureliu Ioan Lazar.

Trade, Payments Agreement Signed

*SK2801061491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0554 GMT 28 Jan 91*

[Text] Pyongyang January 28 (KCNA)—An agreement on trade and payments and a trade protocol for 1991 were signed respectively here Sunday between the Governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Romania.

Present at the signing ceremony on the Korean side were Song Hui-chol, vice-minister of foreign trade, and other officials concerned, and on the opposite side were the members of the Romanian Government trade delegation led by Napoleon Pop, secretary of state at the Ministry of Commerce and Tourism, and Romanian Ambassador to Korea Aureliu Ioan Lazar.

Yon Hyong-muk Sends Greetings to Uganda's Adyebo

*SK2801065991 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0550 GMT 28 Jan 91*

[Text] Pyongyang January 28 (KCNA)—Premier Yon Hyong-muk of the Administration Council sent a message of greetings to George Cosmas Adyebo on his appointment as prime minister of the Republic of Uganda.

Expressing the belief that the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation forged between the two countries would grow stronger and develop in the future, the message sincerely wishes him great success in his new office.

An Kyong-hyon Named New Ambassador to Nigeria

*SK2901111791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1051 GMT 29 Jan 91*

[Text] Pyongyang January 29 (KCNA)—An Kyong-hyon was appointed DPRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, according to a decree of the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Work Units Fulfill Third Seven-Year Plan Quotas

*SK2901112391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1019 GMT 29 Jan 91*

[Text] Pyongyang January 29 (KCNA)—Many units of the DPRK have fulfilled their assignments for the Third Seven-Year Plan (1987-1993).

22 factories and enterprises, about 200 workshops and workteams and some 4,700 working people across the country have carried out their assignments, according to Ho Yon, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea.

In Pyongyang, 16 factories, workshops and workteams and nearly 530 working people fulfilled their quotas.

67 factories, enterprises, workshops and workteams and some 600 working people in South Pyongan Province and many units and 1,630 working people in North Hwanghae Province have joined the ranks of those who fulfilled the assignments ahead of schedule.

The seven-year plan was overfulfilled in three years at the Yongsong daily necessities factory, the Yangdok forestry station and other factories and enterprises.

Production units of the Taehyang pit of the Taehyang coal mine of the Anju area coal mining complex and the Hyoksin pit of the Nampung mine of the Komdok mining complex carried out the seven-year plan in two years.

Production Increases Throughout Economy Examined

In National Economy

*SK0402105791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1030 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Text] Pyongyang February 4 (KCNA)—Production is increasing in various domains of the national economy in Korea.

According to data available at commissions and ministries of the Administration Council, the January plans set higher than last year's were overfulfilled in many units of mining, power, building materials and machine industries.

Many units of the coal industry including the Tokchon district, Chonnae District, Kujang District and Kangdong District coal mining complexes and the South Hamgyong provincial general bureau of coal industry fulfilled their January plans.

Hydroelectric power stations under the commission of power industry surpassed their first monthly targets to fully meet the growing needs of the national economy for electricity.

The ferrous metal mining general bureau and the Yongyang mine carried out their January plans respectively at 109.3 percent and 115 percent in terms of total industrial output value.

Many units including the general bureau of harbours are expanding their achievements in production entering February.

In Rural, Agricultural Production

*SK2601152091 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1500 GMT 26 Jan 91*

[Text] Pyongyang January 26 (KCNA)—The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has taken big strides in the rural technical revolution the keynote of which is irrigation, mechanization, electrification and extensive use of chemicals.

To actively step up the rural technical revolution is one of the important ways of increasing agricultural production in Korea.

The irrigated area before liberation was no more than 100,000 hectares and most of the paddy fields were poorly irrigated.

Korea set irrigation as the most important and primary task in the rural technical revolution and made sizable state investments in it. As a result, many irrigation setups including the large-scale Pyongnam and Ojidon irrigation works have been built in a short period.

There are now some 1,700 reservoirs and over 25,800 pumping stations serving agriculture and the total length of the irrigation channels is more than 40,000 kilometres. New waterways extending 800 km have been recently excavated to link together the Taedong and Ryesong Rivers, and the Amnok and Taeryong Rivers in one irrigation network and supply sufficient water to all the paddy and non-paddy fields in the western granary. This had further developed and reinforced the irrigation systems.

Much efforts have been directed to the mechanization of agriculture to bring the number of tractors per 100 hectares of the arable land to 7 in the plain areas and 6 in the intermediary and mountainous areas and that of trucks to 1.5.

Rice-transplanting machines, rice-plucking machines, thrashing combines and other farming machines have been sufficiently supplied to the countryside to do with the help of machines ploughing, harvesting, transport, rice thrashing, to say nothing of rice-transplanting and rice-plucking.

A signal progress has been made in the electrification and chemicalization of agriculture.

The amount of chemical fertilizer applied to each hectare and the supply of agricultural chemicals have reached a high level.

Labor-consuming weeding is done mostly with the help of chemicals.

Agricultural production is growing fast today with the powerful promotion of the rural technical revolution and the thorough application of the farming method of *juche*.

Per hectare yield of grain has reached a high mark. 150,000, 100,000 or 80,000 tons of grain are produced in Mundok county, South Pyongan Province, Anak County, South Hwanghae Province, Ryongchon County, North Pyongan Province, Hwangju County, North Hwanghae Province, Kumya County, South Hamgyong Province and many other counties.

Other domains of agricultural production including vegetables, meat and fruits are also developing at a fast pace.

In Shipbuilding

*SK0502111891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1006 GMT 5 Feb 91*

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—Many vessels of various types including large ships are being built at shipbuilding bases on the east and west coasts of Korea.

The building of several 20,000 ton-class and 14,000 ton-class ships is being accelerated at the Hambuk shipbuilding complex.

Many ships including several 14,000 ton-class ships and 10,000 ton-class tankers are being built at the Nampo shipbuilding complex.

The shipbuilding industry of Korea was founded after the liberation of the country in August 1945. The first 500 ton-class iron-clad ship was built at the Wonsan shipyard in 1949.

5,000 ton vessels were built in the 1960's.

Shipbuilding industry made a rapid development from the 1970's. Shipyards were built and the existing ones expanded and large, modern and automated equipment and conveyor lines were introduced. And the production bases of medium- and high-speed engines of several thousand hp [horsepower] and of fittings and ship-repair bases were consolidated.

The Hambuk shipbuilding complex (the then Chongjin Shipyard) which had turned out wooden boats before 1958 built the 14,000 ton-class cargo vessel "Wangchaesan", the first of its kind in our country, with its own design and technology in 1974. The Nampo shipbuilding complex (the then Nampo Shipyard) built the 20,000 ton-class cargo ship "Taedonggang" in 1975.

The shipbuilding grew up more than four times in the 1971-1976 period, and notable was the increase of the building of large ships.

In the later period the "Tumangang," the "Tae-hongdan," the "Kwanmobong," the "Pegaebong" and other 14,000 ton-class cargo vessels and the "Yon-pungho" the "Amnokgang" and other 20,000 ton-class cargo ships have been built in large numbers in Korea.

Today the shipbuilding industry of Korea greatly contributes to fisheries, water transport and foreign trade of the country by building tens of thousands of ton-class cargo vessels, 15,000 ton-class factory ships, 10,000 ton-class tankers, 5,000 ton-class cold-storage ships and other vessels of various types.

In North Pyongan Province

SK2801104391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1000 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 28 (KCNA)—A production upswing has been reported from industrial establishments in North Pyongan Province, the northwestern part of Korea.

The Rakwon Machine Complex, the nation's powerful machine building base, has plunged itself into an intensive drive from the first month of the year to carry out earlier than the set time its yearly plan set 20 percent higher than last year's. In the last 20 days or more the complex produced large excavators and hydraulic excavators and is far ahead of schedule in the building of percussion deep boring machines and centrifugal separators. Signal results have been recorded in the production of an 18,000 cubic-metres oxygen plant which is near completion.

The Kujang District Coal Mining Complex is overfulfilling its daily quotas under the yearly plan set far higher than that of last year. The Yongdung, Yongsu and Yongmun coal mines are topping their daily plans 20 percent.

The Pyongbuk smeltery is overfulfilling its daily assignments under the yearly assignments of nonferrous metal production 30 percent higher than last year's by improving the control of equipment and technical control. The furnace shop and the electrolytic shop are carrying out their daily plans at 150 percent.

Signal successes have been reported from other industrial establishments in the province.

In Komdok Mining Production

SK2801151691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1502 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 28 (KCNA)—An unprecedented upsurge in production has been reported from the Komdok Mining Complex in the northeastern area of Korea.

The concentrating capacity of the complex, a mighty lead and zinc ore production center of the country, is 15 million tons. It has set itself a target topping the peak year 40 percent in lead and zinc ore production this year.

The miners of the complex are overfulfilling their daily quotas in January. This means a 70 percent gain in daily average above the daily output in December last year, the record high in recent years.

It has a definite guarantee for beating the lead and zinc ore goals this year.

The Komdok area is blessed with inexhaustible deposits of high-grade lead and zinc ores which cover one hundred and scores of square kilometers.

Promising cutting faces have been created in the existing mines including the Kumgol branch mine, the July First branch mine, the Nampung mine and the Roun mine and the mines being developed in Takgol and Chikdong areas have begun partial production.

Progressing fast is the construction of 14 deep cutting faces of high-grade ores which will start production in February and a 200,000 ton-capacity ore dressing plant which will go into operation within the first half of the year.

The long-distance belt conveyer line in a 12 kilometre section from cutting faces to the dressing plant and the technical equipment of the April 5 youth electric car pit have been reinforced to markedly increase the ore transport capacity.

The state attaches special significance to the lead and zinc ore production at this complex this year.

Thirteen commissions and ministries of the administration council and more than 60 factories and enterprises are in charge of the supply of equipment and materials for the lead and zinc ore production in the Komdok area.

Assistance of the state and society is increasing.

At Sunchon Thermal Plant

SK3001053791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0507 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 29 (KCNA)—Production of electricity is growing at the Sunchon thermal power plant.

In the first half of this month, it jumped 20 percent above the corresponding period of December last year.

Director Pak Tong-ku said that the growth of electric power production in the new year is the increase of the combustion rate in boilers 5 percent on an average through technical innovations, which helped markedly boost the output of power per generator.

The power plant is situated on a bank of the Taedong River in Sunchon City, South Pyongan Province, the mid-west of the country.

With a generating capacity of hundreds of thousands kw, it was built in a short period of three years and started operation in 1987.

The electricity, heat and steam produced by the plant are sent to the Sunchon vinalon complex, a chemical giant.

There are turbo, electrical, chemical and maintenance shops in the plant which is equipped with up-to-date generating, electricity, machine and repair equipment.

The plant has a powerful technical group.

More than 60 percent of the employees is held by engineers and assistant engineers who graduated from universities and colleges including Kim Chaek University of Technology.

There are a cultural hall with 600 seats, a night college, a sanatorium, a nursery and a kindergarten in the compound of the plant, and seven to twelve storeyed apartment houses for 600 families with an average floor space of 110 square metres each are found on the bank of the Taedong River not far from it.

The plant is now accelerating the assembling of one more generator while keeping on production, so as to hasten full commissioning.

Industrial Programs Situated in Chongjin Examined

*SK0402103291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0959 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Text] Pyongyang February 4 (KCNA)—Chongjin situated in the northern area on the east coast of Korea is one of the leading industrial cities of the country.

Ferrous metal industry is the main domain of the economy in the city, the seat of North Hamgyong Province.

The Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex, the biggest metallurgical base in Korea, is located on the coast southeast of the city.

The complex completed the vast second-stage expansion project with production and auxiliary systems of 58 objects in recent years alone. This added millions of tons to the annual steel production capacity and brought to completion the processes capable of producing pig iron, steel and rolled steel on a conveyer system.

The Chongjin steel works in the city greatly contributed to the increase of the potential of the ferrous metal industry by introducing a new metallurgical method into the overall processes of production last year.

Musan County which is situated near this modern iron and steel complex has a large-scale production base of iron headings with rich deposits. Its economic prospect is very promising.

The Hambuk shipbuilding complex, the Chongjin chemical fibre complex, the May 10 general works, the Chongjin machine tool factory and other large industrial establishments are densely distributed in Chongjin. They produce large ships of 10,000 and 20,000 tons and 6,000-ton floating docks, 3,750-ton fishing boats, large-size excavating equipment, machine tools and chemical fibre.

The Chongjin port holds an important place in the nation's sea transport and in the development of foreign trade. The port serves as an international trade port and a base of domestic merchant ships.

The city with many large industrial establishments is well provided with bases of self-sufficient supply of foodstuff and daily necessities to its working people.

Building-material base which are found everywhere reliably guarantee vast-scale construction of houses and public service facilities.

Residential houses for 10,000 families have been built in recent years in Namchongjin, a city of culture of metal workers, and houses for thousands of families are now cropping up at fast speed at scenic spots of the city.

Bathing resorts and fun fairs are available on the sea-beach wooded with pine trees.

WPK Message of Thanks Delivered to Scientists

*SK2801141291 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2200 GMT 22 Jan 91*

[Text] A thank you message was delivered from the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] to the members of the 17 February scientist and technician shock brigade who achieved great scientific and technological results while being dispatched to various sectors of the people's economy.

Members of the 17 February scientist and technician shock brigade—who were dispatched to the 13 July plant in order to thoroughly fulfill our party's decision of bringing about a revolution of machine tools—united with the workers and technicians; carried out studies and completed 14 new technologies, including one of the up-to-date technologies, the [word indistinct] plasma coating method; and introduced this in the production, thus highly enhancing the quality of the machine tools and increasing its life expectancy to many times.

Through their own strength they firmly consolidated the process of coating millions of machine tools annually. This made it possible to further improve the working conditions of the workers, save reagents, and stabilize the production of machine tools at a high level.

As a result of making efforts to fulfill the party's light industrial revolutionary method, the members of the scientist and technician shock brigade who were dispatched to the Pungchon fruit processing plant created for the first time the process for the production of raw materials in producing high-quality soft drinks, and created as well as introduced various facilities in the process of producing canned fruit, thus making it possible to further enhance the quality of the processed fruit.

The members of the scientist and technician shock brigade who were dispatched to the thermal power station sectors made water mills in which its efficiency is two to three percent higher than the original water mills and installed them in the Hochon River, Changjin River, Pujon River, 17 March, Kanggae Youth, and Supung power stations. Therefore it was possible to produce more electricity annually with the same effort and the same amount of resources. Also, coil for many units of electric generators

were exchanged for new coil at the Changjin River and Hochon River power stations. Therefore, it was possible to produce more electricity by increasing by 20 percent per unit, the capacity for producing electricity. Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il highly assessed the results of these works and widely introduced them.

Rallies to repay with loyalty the thank you message by the Central Committee of the WPK were held on the spot. The functionaries concerned, and members of the 17 February scientist and technician shock brigade, participated in the them. At the rallies, the thank you message by the Central Committee of the WPK was conveyed to the participants amid enthusiastic applause.

After this, a report was made and discussions conducted. The reporter and debaters said that for them to accept and embrace this kind of great honor is an expression of the party's high political trust and expectation, and that this should be handed down from generation to generation as a pride and joy.

They emphasized that dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, who regarded the scientists as a valuable treasure of the country and embraced them with great political trust and love, organized the 17 February scientist and technician shock brigade so that they can magnificently resolve the scientific and technological issues that are being put forth by uniting theory and practice amidst the seething reality. Therefore, dear Comrade Kim Chong-il dispatched the members of the 17 February scientist and technician shock brigade to various sectors of the people's economy and wisely led this work.

The reporter and debaters said that today they are faced with the task of stabilizing production at a high level by learning the loyalty toward the great leader and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il as can be seen by the No. 2 cell party members of the fifth bureau of the Korean Central News Agency and the poets of the Korean Literature Production. This is to make it possible to smoothly resolve the scientific and technological issues that are being put forth in the socialist economic construction.

They said that especially by further developing the chuche-oriented industry based on our country's raw materials, fuel, and power, and also by resolving the scientific and technological issues according to the interest of our revolution and our country's concrete reality, this can actively contribute to the chucheization, modernization, and scientization of the people's economy.

They talked about continuously putting efforts into resolving the technological issues that are being raised in further enhancing the production based on the already achieved scientific and technological results at the 13 July plant, Pungchon fruit processing plant, Hochon River, Changjin River, Pujon River, 17 March, Kanggae Youth, and Supung power stations.

The reporter and debaters emphasized that the members of the 17 February scientist and technician shock brigade

will bring about greater innovations in the shock brigade activities so that they can repay with loyalty our party's high trust and expectation through science and technology.

A resolution was adopted at the rallies.

Construction of Pyongyang's New Streets Viewed

*SK2801154691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1511 GMT 28 Jan 91*

[Text] Pyongyang January 28 (KCNA)—Pyongyang, the capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, has turned into a more magnificent and beautiful city with newly-built streets.

Many streets made their appearance in Pyongyang from the 1970's which ushered in a great heyday in the construction of the capital.

New streets such as Chollima, Nakwon and Hyoksin Streets were built on the bank of the River Potong.

Munsu Street took shape on the bank of the River Taedong in the early '80s.

This street built on the site of the Munsu-ri airfield before the country's liberation is akin to a whole city.

Changgwang Street lined with high-rise apartment houses took the place of the old buildings of Yonhwa-ri.

A new street called Kwangbok Street appeared in Mangyongdae District on the eve of the 13th world festival of youth and students.

The street with a total plottage of 18 million square metres has a 100 metre wide main avenue lined with high-rise and super-high-rise apartment houses for tens of thousands of families, the floor space for each family reaching 110 square metres on an average, 180 square metres at maximum, the Mangyongdae school children's Palace, the Pyongyang Circus Theatre, the Chongchun Restaurant and many other cultural and service facilities whose architecture attains the highest level.

There are Yanggang Hotel and Sosan Hotel in Chongchun Street linked to Kwangbok Street, and nine gymnasiums of various shapes including a 25,000-seat stadium were built the foot of hills there.

Many streets including Sungni, Yonggwang and Inhung Streets which were built in the postwar period have changed their looks in harmonious combination with new high-rise buildings.

In the newly-built streets there are 100 odd grand monumental edifices and monuments boasting of our people's architecture.

The tower of the chuche idea 170 metres high stands on the bank of the River Taedong in Chuchetap Street, occupying a spacious area.

The tower built with white natural granite is a grand monumental tower peculiar in its architectural style and scale and high in the representation of plastic arts.

There is the arch of triumph 60 metres high in broad Kaeson Street at the foot of Moran Hill.

The Mansudae art theatre and the Pyongyang department store No. 1, 25 times as large as the "department store" called "Pyongyang Hwasin" in the pre-liberation period, were built in place of it in Mansudae and Sungni Streets.

Built on Namsanjae Hill situated in the heart of the capital is the grand people's study house with a total floor space of 100,000 square metres, 30 million book stocking capacity and 5,000 seats, and Kim Il-song square is situated against its background.

The Pyongyang Maternity Hospital in Munsu Street whose total floor space is 60,000 square metres has far more than 2,000 big and small rooms and a complete set of medical appliances.

Besides, there are Pyongyang Koryo Hotel in Changgwang Street, 105-storey Yugyong Hotel (under construction), the People's Palace of Culture and the Pyongyang indoor stadium in streets on the bank of the River Potong and the May 1 stadium with 150,000 seats in Nungna islet on the River Taedong.

A new street named Tongil street is now under construction in the Naknang Plain, southern part of Pyongyang.

With the fast progress of the construction apartment blocks of tens of thousands of flats were built in the last one year.

Journalists' Organization Adopts Resolution

*SK0502051091 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0427 GMT 5 Feb 91*

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—A resolution on Korea was adopted at the 11th meeting of the International Organisation of Journalists (IOJ) which was held recently in Harare, according to a report.

The 11th meeting of the IOJ the basic goal of which is to support the journalists' struggle on the national and international scale extends particular support to the Korean people and journalists in their struggle to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country by means of confederation based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments, says the resolution.

It was decided at the meeting to set up an Asia-Pacific regional centre of journalists in Pyongyang.

South Korea

No 'Further Support' Being Considered for Gulf

*SK0502021291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0121 GMT
5 Feb 91*

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 5 (YONHAP)—South Korea is not considering further support for the U.S.-led coalition fighting Iraq, Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said Monday.

"The second support, including additional financial aid and military transports, is the maximum support Korea can give at present," he told the National Assembly Diplomacy and Unification Committee.

Korea sent a 154-member military medical team to the Gulf and promised 220 million U.S. dollars in its initial aid package, and has made a second offer of 280 billion dollars in cash and kind, including five C-130 Hercules planes with up to 150 support personnel.

The National Assembly is expected to approve the dispatch of military transports in a plenary session between Thursday and Saturday. National Assembly standing committees will hold hearings until Wednesday.

Yi said Western experts say the Gulf war is likely to be over in mid-March or late March if it proceeds at the current pace.

Turning to the Uruguay Round multilateral trade negotiations, he said Seoul was making every effort to have rice left off a list of liberalization negotiations by designating it a non-tradeable concern (NTC), but the prospects were dim given the current international trade climate.

The government has presented the Uruguay Round a list of 15 NTC items, including rice, barley and beans, but suggested it would drop most of the items.

Iraqi Chemical Weapons Use on Israel 'Imminent'

*SK0502035091 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN
in Korean 4 Feb 91 p 5*

[Exclusive interview with Dan Shomron, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of the Staff of the Israeli Armed Forces, by Jerusalem-based correspondent Ko Sung-chol in Jerusalem on 3 February]

[Text] In Israel, which is constantly being attacked with Iraqi missiles, everyone has their attention focused on whether or not Iraq will eventually fire missiles equipped with chemical weapons toward their country.

Commenting on this issue in an exclusive interview granted to KYONGHYANG SINMUN correspondent at the Knesset building in Jerusalem at 1400 on 3 February [local time in Israel], Dan Shomron, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Israeli Armed Forces, said that "the day the Iraqis will use chemical weapons is imminent." He went to Jerusalem, where the Knesset is

located, from Tel Aviv, where the Defense Ministry is located, to answer Knesset members' interpellations on the likelihood of Iraq using chemical weapons against Israel.

The following are the questions and answers from an exclusive interview conducted by this reporter.

[Ko] Iraqi President Saddam Husayn said that Iraq is capable of carrying chemical and biological weapons, and even nuclear weapons on missiles. Is this true? If they do use these weapons, when do you think it will be?

[Shomron] I cannot be certain about it. We understand, however, that it is quite possible that the Iraqis have developed the necessary technology to mount chemical and biological weapons on missiles. Also I would like to stress the fact that there is a great possibility of Iraq practicing such technology; that is to say, the day Iraq will use it is imminent. If and when the Iraqis use chemical warheads, however imperfect and low in technological level they may be, they will threaten us gravely.

[Ko] If and when the Iraqis use chemical weapons, will Israel try to respond with a counterattack?

[Shomron] It is a question that I cannot answer. The Israelis must carry gas masks with them all the time for emergencies.

[Ko] There were quite a few false air raid alerts. Why do sirens sound even when no missile is flying in?

[Shomron] It is because some of the warning systems are too old. As we are replacing those old system with new ones, no false warnings will sound in the future.

[Ko] As a result of massive bombings by coalition forces, a considerable number of the mobile missile launchers in the western part of Iraq have been destroyed. Is this information correct?

[Shomron] I have no way of verifying it. But I guess that missiles and missile launchers there have been damaged. It is also known that quite a number of personnel manning the missile launchers have died. So, I think the Iraqis will have many difficulties in firing missiles toward Israel.

[Ko] Is there any possibility of Israeli Air Force aircraft attempting to attack the missile launchers in the western areas of Iraq?

[Shomron] We know the enemy well. The Israeli Air Force is capable of rendering the Iraqi missile bases and missile launchers powerless in a very short time. Although Israel is capable of doing it, we are exercising self-restraint out of consideration for Israel's long-term national interest.

[Ko] Lately most of the missiles launched from Iraq have fallen, accidentally, in the West Bank of Jordan where the Palestinians reside. Since no Patriot missiles have

been fired to intercept the missiles falling in this region, the Palestinians have doubts.

[Shomron] This is nothing but a deliberate calumnious effort designed to alienate Israel from Palestine. All missiles coming into the range of the Patriot missiles are designated to be intercepted. There is some conjecture about this because the West Bank is out of the Patriot missiles' firing range.

Saudi Arabian Ambassador Interviewed on Gulf War

*SK0402122591 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
3 Feb 91 p 5*

[Interview with Muhammad al-Shuwayhi, Saudi Arabian ambassador to Korea, on 1 February at the Saudi Arabian Embassy, by reporter Yon Kuk-hui]

[Text] "Even though Khafji has been occupied temporarily due to the enemy's surprise attack, I am not worried about the future of the ground warfare." Muhammad al-Shuwayhi, Saudi Arabian ambassador to Korea, whom the reporter met on the afternoon of 1 February at the Saudi Arabian Embassy situated in Sinmun-ro, Chongno-ku, Seoul, showed confidence and composure with regard to the progress of the Gulf war.

Ambassador al-Shuwayhi said that tactics and strategies should be left to the military experts, and thus restrained from talking about this matter. But he did mention: "There is no doubt that victory is on the side of the allied forces and Saudi Arabia."

He explained that this is because the allied forces, along with its strong military might, is receiving international support to back this up.

[Yon] If the war becomes protracted do you think that the allied forces side will request Korea to dispatch combat forces?

[Al-Shuwayhi] Saudi Arabia welcomes any kind of support from our allies. Whether or not combat forces will be dispatched, however, is an issue which each country must decide upon by themselves. I understand that each country has its own domestic situation and order of priority in their national affairs.

[Yon] Since Iraq released a large amount of crude oil into the Persian Gulf, is there any difficulties in supplying drinking water in Saudi Arabia?

[Al-Shuwayhi] The seawater desalinization facilities in the Persian Gulf are mostly to supply water for agricultural and industrial use. There are some difficulties in the supply of fresh water due to the pollution in the Gulf but it will be all right if we use more underground water and import more mineral water. What we are worried about is the fact that the environment is being greatly destroyed, such as the possibility of the extinction of oceanic life due to the release of oil by Iraq.

[Yon] Do you not think that ultimately Israel will participate in the war if Iraq and the Palestinians continue to irritate Israel? Then, there is concern that the armies of the Arab countries may break away from the allied forces.

[Al-Shuwayhi] That is only a hypothesis, and I do not want to talk about some hypothesis at this stage. Do you not think one crosses a bridge only when one encounters a river?

[Yon] This war is being carried out between the Iraqi Army and the allied forces. On the other hand, however, there is a strong characteristic of a war between the Christian forces and Islamic forces. There is a view that if the allied forces win in this war the Arabic world will be decisively influenced by the Western forces. What do you think about this matter?

[Al-Shuwayhi] That is wrong. Many Arabic countries are with the allied forces. Moreover, we should remember that this war was ignited because Iraq occupied a fellow Arab country, Kuwait.

[Yon] There are people who say that through this war it is desirable for some Arabic countries such as Saudi Arabia to change into a more democratic political system.

[Al-Shuwayhi] It is wrong to see Saudi Arabia as not having a democratic system. In Saudi Arabia everyone is recognized with the same right and dignity whether one is a prince, citizen, or farmer. Even though we do not have a Western style "parliamentary" system, we have a "cabinet meeting" in the government where all decisions are discussed. Democracy is being realized practically.

South General Designated as MAC Senior Delegate

SK0402123591 Seoul YONHAP in English 1224 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 4 (YONHAP)—The U.N. Command has designated Maj. Gen. Hwang Won-tak, deputy chief of staff of the Korea-U.S. Combined Forces Command (CFC), to become its senior delegate to the Military Armistice Commission [MAC] meeting, South Korean government sources said.

Hwang is likely to represent the command starting from the 459th Military Armistice Commission meeting which is expected to be held Feb. 13, they said.

The replacement of an American general with a South Korean officer in the post was agreed upon in a South Korea-U.S. Security Consultative Meeting last November.

North's Continued Military Buildup 'No Surprise'

SK0502021691 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 5 Feb 91 p 8

[Editorial: "Pyongyang's Scud Capability"]

[Text] It comes as no surprise that the government once again found that the offensive military potential of Pyongyang's war machine has grown substantially.

A government source revealed over the weekend that North Korea has deployed 12 mobile Scud missile launchers some 40-50km north of the Demilitarized Zone, placing all of South Korea within range. What is more, the same source also disclosed that North Korea is now capable of producing some 50 Scud-B surface-to-surface missiles annually.

Daily reports from the Gulf detailing damage done by Scud missiles make this revelation even more menacing. President No Tae-u quickly ordered military leaders Sunday to maintain their state of readiness to meet any surprise attack from the North by maintaining full-alert status in all the Armed Forces and to improve early warning systems. Noting defense preparedness always remains uppermost among our national goals of survival and sustained development in these difficult times, the President also stressed that achieving a self-reliant defense posture is imperative if we are to prevent another war on the peninsula.

We have all along suspected that although North Korea publicly advocates troop reductions and arms control, it has continued with its military buildup. The discovery of the Scuds proves that we had good reason for harboring such suspicions. North Korea's continued military buildup militates against the widespread post-cold war mood that is sweeping most parts of the globe despite the on-going Gulf war. Such actions frustrate hopes for reduced tension and improved relations on this divided peninsula.

Seoul has continuously tried to bring Pyongyang to the conference table to negotiate a settlement of the Korean question and to end armed confrontation and political rivalry. But North Koreans have balked at one proposal after another, concocting various transparent pretexts.

Pyongyang's deployment of the Scud missiles is especially offensive because they installed them while Seoul and Pyongyang are engaged in various negotiations to lessen hostility between the Koreas. Pyongyang's calls for peace ring hollow in the face of their continuing increase of their offensive capabilities along the DMZ.

In order for us to insure our security in the face of such North Korean ploys, we need to keep ourselves thoroughly prepared—both physically and morally. Our people should not forget the palpable threats from the North. We must make the Pyongyang regime understand that any reckless actions on its part will only bring about self-destruction. This is the only way to bring Pyongyang to its senses so that constructive inter-Korea dialogue can be sustained.

North-U.S. Councilor Contact in Beijing Reported

*SK0502011891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0053 GMT
5 Feb 91*

[Text] Washington, Feb. 4 (YONHAP)—The United States and North Korea had their 14th councilor-level contact in Beijing Monday to discuss repatriation of the remains of American soldiers killed in the Korean war and North Korea's signing of the International Atomic Energy Agency's safeguards clause, an informed source said.

A U.S. State Department spokesman confirmed the meeting but said he could not disclose details of the discussion.

The last contact was in late October in Beijing.

Defector to North Fails To Establish Labor Union

*SK0402135091 Seoul YONHAP in English 1256 GMT
4 Feb 91*

[Text] Kwangju, South Korea, Feb. 4 (YONHAP)—Chi Yong-chun, 29, a South Korean citizen who was reported to have defected to North Korea recently, turned out to have worked as a senior reception clerk at a tourist hotel in a spa near here.

Officials of Mt. Mudung tourist hotel said Chi tendered his resignation on Jan. 10 after his demand for the establishment of a labor union was not met by the management.

Pyongyang's Korea Central News Agency reported Monday that Chi defected to North Korea.

A hotel official said Chi had been working as a senior reception clerk since he was employed in September last year. Chi had led a committee for organizing a union, he added.

Chi graduated from Kyungju College in 1987 and Kyunghee Hotel Management College in 1989 before he got a job in the hotel, according to his resume shown by the personnel affairs officials of the hotel.

Sun-chin, 56, Chi's father, said, "I have no idea of why and how he defected to the North." Chi was the eldest of Sun-chin's five children.

Yi Sang-ok Discusses Future Diplomatic Goals

*SK0502074491 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean
2215 GMT 3 Feb 91*

[Interview with Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok by an unidentified reporter; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified reporter] Hello. Thank you for giving us an interview. Would you elaborate on the Foreign Ministry's plan for this year?

[Yi] We have mapped out four diplomatic policy goals by the year 2000. They are: Establishing a peace structure in Northeast Asia; promoting an international environment for reunification; carrying out practical diplomacy for our economic development; and playing roles commensurate with our enhanced international position. Based upon these goals, we are planning to pursue several diplomatic goals this year. We will further promote ROK-U.S. relations and will substantiate our northern policies; will try to enter the United Nations and to establish diplomatic relations with China at the earliest possible date; will progressively develop ROK-Japanese relations; will step up cooperative relations with the EC; and will further promote cooperative relations with ASEAN and promote cooperation among countries in the Asian and Pacific region.

[Reporter] The attention of not only our people but also the entire world has recently focused on the Gulf situation. I think that if the war is prolonged, it will greatly affect not only the world's economy but also our economy. Would you clearly express our government's basic position on the Gulf situation?

[Yi] We hope that the Gulf war will be over at the earliest possible date. As you have said, a prolonged war is not desirable in view of the overall international situation and in view of our external relations. Therefore, we think that it is desirable to end the war at the earliest possible date. Our basic position on the Gulf situation is based upon UN Security Council resolutions. As you know, the UN Security Council has passed 12 resolutions on the Gulf situation over the past several months, and the U.S. and multinational forces have made efforts for peace under these UN resolutions. Our position is: Within our ability, we will also help the U.S. and the multinational forces which were formed under the UN Security Council resolutions and which are making efforts for peace.

[Reporter] I will ask another question on the Gulf situation. We pledged \$220 million in assistance last September and sent a military medical team in January this year. You personally announced on 30 January that the government will give \$280 million in additional war expenditures and will send military transport planes. What is the background of this additional assistance, and is there any possibility that troops will be deployed, which we guess is likely if the war is prolonged?

[Yi] As I told you earlier, based upon our basic position of assisting the multinational forces, which are carrying out activities under the UN resolutions, within our ability we pledged \$220 million last year and sent a medical team after it was approved by the National Assembly. We have also decided to give \$280 million in additional economic assistance and to send a transportation support unit composed of five military transport planes. This decision was made according to our basic diplomatic policy that we would play a role commensurate with our enhanced international position.

I think what you mean by troop deployment is the deployment of combat troops. You do not have to consider the medical team and the military transportation unit as combat units. They will assist medical and transportation services in the rear areas. We are not considering the deployment of a combat unit at this stage.

[Reporter] Many military experts and many other people at home and abroad predict that the war will be over in March. Will you consider it if the war continues even after March?

[Yi] Many military experts predict that the Gulf war will end in a victory by the multinational forces in mid-March, or late March at the latest. It is not good to speculate at this point. I again stress, however, that the government is not considering the deployment of a combat unit.

[Reporter] You mean that you do not consider the deployment of military transport planes as participation in the war?

[Yi] We may say that we have joined the multinational forces, which are making efforts for peace, by sending a medical team, which will be followed by a military transportation unit.

[Reporter] I will ask questions on the Soviet Union. The joint communique, which was released after the ROK-Soviet intergovernmental meeting, says that \$3 billion will be given to the Soviet Union in economic cooperation. Some people say that this may be beyond our ability considering the recent economic situation. Would you elaborate on what we can get by extending economic cooperation?

[Yi] A Soviet Government delegation led by First Vice Prime Minister Maslyukov came to Seoul a while ago and held negotiations with the ROK Government delegation. They concluded economic cooperation between the two countries, which has been a pending issue. What I want to make clear is that our economic assistance to be extended to the Soviet Union is neither a grant nor a long-term, low-interest loan to developing countries. Out of the \$3 billion, \$2 billion will be used in short-term loans for the Soviet Union's imports of our consumer goods and plants, and \$1 billion will be a cash loan. Our banks will make loans to the Soviet (?Bank for Foreign Economic Activity). I again make clear that these loans are not grants. As you know well, normalizing relations with the Soviet Union was one of the important goals of our northern policies. It is a fact that, apart from the normalization of relations with the Soviet Union, we have also tried to find ways to promote trade and economic cooperation. I think that this economic assistance, which is designed to provide a foundation for substantially developing bilateral relations and to help ROK companies do business in the Soviet Union, is beneficial to promoting substantial relations. As you know well, the Soviet Union is one of our four neighboring countries which will play an important role in

easing tension and promoting peace on the Korean peninsula. We expect, therefore, that the development of relations between the ROK and the Soviet Union will lead to the promotion of economic cooperation between the two countries and will positively contribute to promoting peace on the Korean peninsula.

[Reporter] The Soviet Union's reformist and open-door policies have led to the East European countries achievement of democracy and have promoted a conciliatory atmosphere between (?the United States and the Soviet Union). Would you tell us how the Soviet Union's reformist and open-door policies will affect North-South relations?

[Yi] Due to the reformist policies of various East European countries and the Soviet Union, visible achievements were brought in our northern diplomacy. I think that their reformist and open-door policies will positively affect the Korean peninsula. Even though it has rejected the strong trend toward open-door and reformist policies, we think North Korea will ultimately have no alternative but to accept this strong trend toward open-door and reformist policies.

[Reporter] You have said that we will enter the United Nations and establish diplomatic relations with China at the earliest possible date. The media has frequently reported on our admission to the United Nations, and during his New Year news conference President No Tae-u said that we will enter the United Nations this year. What is the government's basic position on our admission to the United Nations, and when do you expect we will be able to enter the United Nations?

[Yi] The government thinks that it is desirable for North and South Korea to simultaneously enter the United Nations; it will contribute to promote peace on the Korean peninsula and in the long run achieve peaceful reunification. North Korea's allegation that our UN admission will perpetuate national division is not convincing, and no country thinks it reasonable. I expect that North Korea will come to a more realistic sense as soon as possible and will assume a more progressive position on the UN admission issue. Even if North Korea does not change its attitude toward North-South simultaneous admission, I think we must not indefinitely delay our admission. The government still thinks it desirable for North and South Korea to simultaneously enter the United Nations and will make efforts toward this end.

[Reporter] An obstacle to our admission to the United Nations is, to a certain extent, China's position. I remember that during a recent interview you avoided answering a question on this issue.

[Yi] As you know, the Chinese authorities have officially said that they hope that North and South Korea will agree on the UN admission issue through negotiations. As shown in last year's UN General Assembly session, however, an absolute majority of the UN members support our admission to the United Nations. We think

that, considering this international atmosphere and reality, China will assume a progressive attitude toward our admission to the United Nations.

[Reporter] Thank you.

[Yi] Thank you.

Proposed Discussions of KAL Incident Reported

SK0502013491 Seoul KOREA DAILY in English
5 Feb 91 p 2

[Text] The government is considering taking fresh steps to find out the truth behind the downing of a Korean Air plane by Soviet Fighters near Sakhalin in 1983, concluding there is a wide discrepancy between an official Soviet statement and what newspaper Izvestiya reported recently over the incident.

An official at the Foreign Ministry said the government plans to discuss with the United States and Japan ways to take joint measures to find out what really happened to the ill-fated plane.

Contrary to Moscow's claim that the KAL plane was flying without flight lights on and the Soviet fighters involved flashed warning signals in advance to the airliner, Izvestiya said the plane had flight lights on and the warning signal was not through an internationally accepted radio frequency, the official said.

Izvestiya, the official daily of the Soviet government, carried a story on the incident in ten installments from Jan. 21 through 31.

The story said Soviet fighters fired flareless bullets instead of flare ones at the airliner as a warning and the KAL plane took it as a danger signal and nosedived at a reduced speed.

The Soviets took the maneuver as an escape attempt and shot it down, it said.

During Soviet Vice Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev's visit to Seoul last month, the government formally asked the Soviets to furnish to Korea new information about the incident if they come up with any.

The Boeing 747 jetliner enroute to Seoul from New York via Anchorage somehow strayed into the Soviet airspace near Sakhalin on Sept. 1, 1983, when Soviet fighters coldbloodedly blasted it out of the sky. All the 269 passengers and crewmen aboard perished.

China Shows 'Flexibility' on Joint UN Membership

SK0502093391 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean
4 Feb 91 p 1

[Text] It was learned on 3 February that in connection with the issue of entry of the North and the South of

Korea into the United Nations, China recently unofficially expressed its will to support the ROK policy calling for simultaneous entry of the North and the South of Korea.

Thus, the possibility of the ROK's entry into the United Nations by the end of the year has further been increased. In addition, it appears the simultaneous entry of the North and the South of Korea would also be possible depending on the role of China, one of the five member states of the Security Council.

A high-ranking government official said that "in the course of contact between the diplomats of both sides at a ceremony of hanging board of the ROK trade mission in Beijing on 30 January, the Chinese side, admitting that North Korea's plan for the single UN Membership is unreasonable, said that the simultaneous entry of the North and the South is more desirable." He added that "such a change in China's attitude means that its position has become flexible to the considerable extent compared to that of the past, although it was expressed in an unofficial manner."

This official pointed out that China's flexibility came after the request made late last year by Lilley, U.S. Ambassador to China, to the Chinese Government to support the ROK policy on UN membership, and by Rogachev, Soviet Vice Foreign Minister, who visited China in January of this year. Thus, the change in China's position attracts the people's attention."

He said that "however, it is difficult for us at present to judge whether China's attitude means China will support even the separate entry of South Korea into the United Nations in the event that the North and the South fail to reach an agreement on the principle of simultaneous entry."

China expressed its official position in the past that the North and the South should jointly seek appropriate measures for the solution of this issue based on mutual agreement.

The North and the South of Korea have held up to now three rounds of "working-level contacts to discuss the issue of UN membership" since the first North-South high-level talks in last September. They failed to reach any conclusion, however.

This official also stated that "North Korea sternly criticized the Soviet Union through its mass media when the Soviet Union established diplomatic relations with the ROK. North Korea, however, did not blame China at all when China agreed to mutually establish a trade mission with the ROK in November of last year, thus showing its position of striving to understand China's position. Therefore, it appears that North Korea will not show a strong protest against China's support for the ROK policy on the issue of UN membership."

He said that "China is not likely to exercise its veto even if South Korea independently requests for the entry into

the United Nations when North Korea refuses simultaneous entry. Thus, the government will submit the request for the entry before September of this year and push for its entry by the end of the year."

He added that "there is a possibility of simultaneous entry of the North and the South within this year if North Korea accepts the principle of simultaneous entry as a result of China's persuading North Korea."

Soviet Economist To Speak at Korean Institute

SK0502022291 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 5 Feb 91 p 6

[Text] The so-called "500-day" program takes a more fundamental approach than Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's final reform formula in solving current Soviet economic problems, said Stanislav Shatalin yesterday.

"The Gorbachev reform formula, approved by the Supreme Soviet or parliament, takes a middle-road course. The current Soviet economic condition, however, requires a more radical reform," said Shatalin, a former top economic aide to Gorbachev, shortly after arriving in Seoul.

The 57-year-old Soviet economist, a member of the Central Committee and one of the team which drew up the so-called "500-day" program for transforming the Soviet economy into a market economy, visited here at the invitation of Kum Chin-ho, a former trade and industry minister and now chairman of the International Trade and Business Institute.

Saying that the Soviet economy is in a crisis beyond description, Shatalin called for help from the West and South Korea.

"One of the big problems facing the Soviet economy is how to secure funds necessary for economic reform and I think Korea's accumulated experience from its remarkable economic success could be a big help to us," he said.

Another problem is that the Soviet have no confidence in their economic reform and its success despite an immense potential for economic development, he said.

Shatalin, an academician and member of Gorbachev's Presidential Council until its dissolution in January, praised Korea's economic success, adding that his words are not flattery.

"The Soviet Union will adopt the strong points of advanced economies in charting its economic policies. South Korea, Britain and France will be our models for economic development," he said.

The outspoken, liberal reformist economist, who will stay here until Saturday, said he will retain his membership in the Central Committee despite his harsh open letter to Gorbachev recently.

He said it was a fact that he sent an open letter, but there were some misinterpretation of his view in newspaper articles.

A recent wire article said the Soviet Communist Party was expected to expel Shatalin over his outspoken criticism of President Gorbachev in the open letter.

The letter was published Jan. 22 in the youth daily KOMOSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, calling Gorbachev to drop his project for a new Union Treaty, resign from leadership of the Communist Party and set up a government of national salvation drawn from a wide spectrum of political views, ethnic origins and social callings.

He said at the press conference, "My position as academic secretary with the Economic Department of the Soviet Academy of Science will not be affected at all."

Shatalin, who came here along with his wife and two others, will deliver his opinions on the Soviet economic reform at a seminar arranged by the Korea Development Institute today.

Answers Questions About Economy

SK0502075391 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean
4 Feb 91 p 6

[Interview with Stanislav Shatalin, member of the Standing Executive Committee of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, by reporter Yi Paek-kyu, from the "5-Minute Interview" column; date and place not given]

[Text] Dr. Stanislav Sergeyevich Shatalin, the 57-year-old member of the Standing Executive Committee of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and the standard bearer of the Soviet economic reform [photo], came to Korea on 4 February. Dr. Shatalin is a liberal economist specializing in economic reform who has taken part in formulating a variety of economic reform policies, including the "500 Days Economic Reform Plan" designed to promote the Soviet Union's transition to a market economy.

He is said to be going through difficulties after openly criticizing the conservative forces in an open letter printed in an organ of the Komsomol, arguing that "Gorbachev's reform policy is changing in its nature due to strong opposition from the hard-line conservative forces within the military establishment." The conservatives threatened to strip him of his party membership.

In an interview arranged at the airport, he said: The Soviet economy is in deep trouble to the point where it is impossible to compare it with other Western economies. The experience that Korea has accumulated in the course of economic development will be of great help to the Soviet Union.

Following are the questions and answers:

[Yi] What do you think of Gorbachev's economic reform policy?

[Shatalin] The economic reform plan now under way in the Soviet Union is a final one worked out by the president and approved in principle by the party's Politburo.

This being the case, the reform plan will be carried out in full no matter how strongly the conservatives and radicals may oppose it. Of course, the "500 Day Economic Reform Plan," which has been worked out by the scholars, including myself, can be said to be more to the point in that it is capable of effecting changes in the Soviet economy far more quickly than other reform plans. The president's plan favors the middle-of-the-road attitude.

[Yi] What condition is the Soviet economy in currently?

[Shatalin] I must admit that the Soviet economy is in greater trouble than other countries such as the ROK and Japan and other Western countries. It is impossible to compare it with other countries. Faced with financial pressure, the government has no funds to spare for investment. Daily necessities and consumer goods, including electronic goods, are not only low in quality, but also in short supply.

[Yi] What is most urgently needed for reforming the Soviet economy?

[Shatalin] We need a considerable amount of funds to promote the reform. The problem is that the Soviet people lack a "can do" spirit.

Since the Soviet Union has considerable economic potential, the experience that Korea has accumulated in the course of developing its economy will greatly help the Soviet people have confidence.

[Yi] Which country does the Soviet Union have in mind as a model for economic reform?

[Shatalin] In the process of promoting economic reform, an argument flared up as to which country the Soviet Union will choose as a model—the ROK, Japan, or the United Kingdom. British philosopher Bacon once remarked that "if a monkey tries to look like a human being, he will end up appearing uglier." The Soviet Union only tries to learn various countries' experience and their good points.

[Yi] Tell me about the controversy your open letter has created.

[Shatalin] It is true that I have criticized the hard-line group inside the military establishment, the so-called "Soyuz Group," in an open letter carried by the organ of Komsomol last 22 January. However, I have never had any trouble because of it.

[Editor's note] Dr. Shatalin, who has come to Korea at the invitation of Kum Chin-ho, chairman of the Institute for the Studies of International Trade and Management, will stay in Korea until 9 February. In seminars scheduled to be held during his stay in Korea, Dr. Shatalin will

explain the conditions for investment in the Soviet Union and the Soviet policy designed to lure foreign investors to the Soviet Union, while groping for ways of promoting ROK-USSR economic cooperation.

Seoul, Leningrad Colleges To Accept Credits

SK2501100591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0911 GMT
25 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 25 (OANA-YONHAP)—Seoul National University (SNU) and six foreign colleges, including Leningrad Scientific Center, will accept credits earned at each other's institutes starting next semester.

SNU officials said Friday that under a cross-recognition system with the six overseas universities, up to 30 credits in undergraduate and 12 in graduate major courses will be accepted toward a degree.

The new system applies to institutes that have academic exchange agreements with SNU—University of California in Los Angeles, Leningrad Scientific Center, University of Sidney, Tokyo University, Technical University of Budapest and Stockholm University.

The period of overseas study at these universities, however, will be limited to one year under the program.

The system can also be applied to other colleges after SNU conducts individual reviews according to majors, officials said.

North Shows Japanese Films on TV for First Time

SK0502010891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0048 GMT
5 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 5 (YONHAP)—A television station in Pyongyang aired two Japanese films on Jan. 20, the first to be shown in either half of the Korean peninsula since it was liberated from Japanese colonial rule in 1945.

A feature film, titled "A Story About the Snow Lady," was broadcast by Mansudae TV, which is restricted to the Pyongyang area, for 77 minutes from 7:38 P.M., North Korea watchers in Seoul said Tuesday.

A horror film for children was shown later the same day by Mansudae, which broadcasts only on weekends, they said.

North Korea's showing of the Japanese films indicates its zeal for normalization of ties with Japan as it came 10 days before the two countries discussed improvement of relations Jan. 30-31, they said.

Japan ruled Korea from 1910 until it was defeated in World War II, after which Korea was divided into the capitalist South and communist North. South Korea has never shown a Japanese film on television.

President Orders Full Probe Into Housing Scandal*SK0502105191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0908 GMT
5 Feb 91*

[Text] Kwangju, South Korea, Feb. 5 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u ordered a full investigation Tuesday into the Suso district housing scandal, saying the government "must stay true to its determination for clean politics."

No, in this southern city for a briefing by the governor on South Cholla Province, ordered the Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) to probe the Seoul City Government and other involved agencies for evidence of unethical activities.

The presidential directive comes amid growing public outrage at a cover-up by the government, National Assembly and both ruling and opposition camps of suspected money-laden lobbying by the Hanbo Business Group in pushing a lucrative housing deal.

No called his secretary-general, Chong Hae-chang, right after the briefing and ordered an in-depth inspection by BAI of administrative records and an immediate investigation into "any sign of irregularity."

Prosecution and tax officials earlier refused to start a probe, saying they had not found any breaches of the law.

BAI officials said they organized a special inspection team to carry out the task.

PPD To Endorse Gulf Aid, Oppose USSR Loan*SK0502074991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0721 GMT
5 Feb 91*

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 5 (YONHAP)—The opposition Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) said Tuesday it will vote for the dispatch of military transports and support personnel to join the allied war machine in the Persian Gulf when the proposal is raised in the National Assembly on Thursday.

The PPD had accused the government of unilaterally making important decisions without public debate for announcing it would send five C-130 Hercules transports and 150 support personnel to the Gulf.

PPD spokesman Pak Sang-chon said it was decided to approve the action in view of national interests, such as Korea's status in the Middle East after the war, and relations with the United States and the United Nations, though it was still felt there was a procedural problem in the government's handling of the matter.

Pak said the PPD also decided to endorse the government plan because the planes and personnel are not combat forces, and it will continue to oppose the dispatch of combat troops to the region.

The PPD also decided to vote against cash loans to the Soviet Union amounting to 1 billion U.S. dollars.

Touching on the government plan to provide loans to the Soviet Union, the spokesman said, the PPD is not against economic cooperation with the Soviet Union but decided to oppose the loans because their size could hurt the Korean economy at a time when trade deficit is growing.

Another reason for the PPD opposition is that the loans could set a bad precedent for relations with China, he said.

Seoul established diplomatic ties with Moscow on Sept. 30, 1990, and seeks to normalize relations with Beijing.

Pak said the PPD would positively consider the economic aid program if the government replaced the loans with commodities.

The loans are part of a 3 billion-dollar aid package Korea has agreed to provide to the Soviet Union over the next three years.

It was announced after the second round of the Korea-Soviet economic consultation in Seoul last month.

Merger of Democratic Party With Dissidents Viewed*SK0502073591 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean
5 Feb 91 p 2*

[Editorial: "Our Expectations of 'New Politics'"]

[Text] A merger has finally been realized between the Democratic Party and the dissident Democratic Alliance—a merger which the newly emerged Democratic Party described as "a refounding of the party"—giving birth to a de facto new opposition party which opposes the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] and is critical of the Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD]. It is also a new opposition party which challenges the present opposition political alignment. The merger between the second conservative opposition party and the progressive dissident group—which was described as a 'moderate and reason-pursuing' dissident group—is a meaningful development which draws our attention with the time of changing politics approaching which will begin with the forthcoming elections of a local legislature followed by the elections of the heads of the local autonomic organizations, National Assemblymen, and the president.

The merger puts forward a slogan "new politics and reform," but it really contains both the desperate efforts of the Democratic Party to recover the waning people's support through an expansion of the party force and the expectations of the Democratic Alliance to realize the merger of the opposition forces as a whole by joining the legitimate political circles. It seems that the efforts and the expectations are prompted by the common awareness of the need to check the victory of the ruling party in the non-Honam regions [the regions other than the Cholla provinces] by taking in the "anti-DLP and anti-PPD" sentiment in those regions—a sentiment which was caused by the public's extreme distrust of politics in

general as well as the regional antagonism existing in our society—as their political support base in the forthcoming elections. The result of the elections will be revealed by the judgment of the people. While we share the awareness of the reality by the two political groups, we cannot help but feel regret over the limitations of the reality of our times in which we have to accept the regional and political biases.

This regret is connected with the people's concern over how the experiment of the 'new politics' and 'clean politics' which they uphold will turn out. This is the expectations and worries of the people about the result of the realistic combination of the political reality viewed by the Democratic Party—which inherits a column of the divisive politics which was sometimes proud and sometimes shameful in the half century history of opposition parties—and the political ideals aspired for by the morality of the dissident group which has devoted itself to the antidictatorial struggle for democratization in the face of the harsh suppression on it since the beginning of the Yusin.

Now the dissidents have entered the road of three alternatives heading for practical politics, namely to become an ideological political party advocating 'progress,' to found a new political party by merger with the first opposition party, and to found a political party by merging with the second opposition party. At the same time, there are active moves coming from the lower echelon people in the provincial areas toward solidarity among the opposition forces with the local legislature election approaching. In this political whirlwind we would like to urge the newly launched Democratic Party, in place of our congratulatory remarks, to strengthen its own internal unity more than anything else in light of its tasks of the times ranging from resolving the long-pending task of intraparty democratization to the realization of the ideological harmony between conservatism and progressivism aimed at breaking up the reality of division.

Iranian Fails To Smuggle Out Forged Passports

SK0202233591 Seoul YONHAP in English 1308 GMT
2 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 2 (ONA-YONHAP)—An Iranian was detained by the police here after his attempt to smuggle faked Swedish and Greek passports out of the country was foiled by security guards at the Kimpo International Airport Thursday.

According to the airport security officers Saturday, Pooral Hosseini Abdolavahid, 26, was rounded up shortly before boarding a Korean Air jetliner Thursday morning as security guards found him hiding two forged passports, one Swedish and the other Greek, in his socks.

The Iranian confessed he had bought the sham passports from another visiting Iranian who was identified only as "Ali" for 10,000 U.S. dollars at a downtown hotel in Seoul, it was said.

The Iranian turned out to be having no link to terrorist organizations. Police decided to deport the Iranian after investigating into the circumstances of the case.

Government Excuses for Economic Problems Viewed

SK0502012491 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
5 Feb 91 p 8

["News In Review" by Assistant Economic Editor Pak Chong-sok: "Korean Economy Races Toward Worst Downturn"]

[Text] The Korean economy is racing towards its worst downturn. All-time highs are notched up in the inflation rate and trade deficit. Lows are chalked up in industrial production gauges and employment. Some economists hastily see these trends as a harbinger of stagflation, a combination of high inflation and recession. Nonetheless, they do not dare to openly use the "S" word in fear of the immense effects on the overall national economy it could cause.

For now, nowhere are positive contributors for an upturn seen. What newspapers described as the "worst" macroeconomic barometer was unveiled by the government last week, raising voices of worry over the advent of business doldrums. According to a government tally, January saw the highest monthly rise in inflation rate in 10 years and the largest shortfall in the history of national trade. On top of this, major industrial indexes including factory operating rate post steady declines.

Disclosing the 2.1 percent price rise and 1.7 billion-dollar trade deficit for the first month of the year, officials presented reasons for the economic aggravation. Their excuses were deemed plausible to the people with little knowledge of economy. Technocrats working with the government largely attribute the current hardship to the difficult economic milieu at home and abroad. In part, officials' logic is right, but not completely. It is rather natural to say that the prime cause for the present economic plight lies in the lack of crisis management capability on the part of the government.

Representative of the government's mistakes is the price policy mishmash. Now, blistering price spiral fallout has been raining down throughout the country, reminding the people of the nightmarish double-digit inflation prevalent 10 years ago. The latest announcement on monthly price rises came as no surprise to consumers, who had already felt the pain of steep hikes on their shopping trips. Taking into consideration the steps the No Tae-u administration has taken so far, the horrendous price spiral was only to be expected.

In other words, the commitments the No administration has made to tame the price rises have not been fulfilled by the actions. In a sense, it is no exaggeration to say that the principal culprit fanning inflation has been the government itself, nothing else.

Contrary to its repeated vow to hold down inflation under below 10 percent, rises for this year effectuated under the government jurisdiction have all been double-digit. State budget increased 18.9 percent, salaries for government officials 12.7 percent, and National Assemblymen's pay 23 percent.

Public service charges including railway and subway fares were raised by double-digit rates. With rises like these, it would be foolish to expect the price stability.

Shortly after the vertical rises in prices were made public, Deputy Premier Yi Sung-yun, concurrently top economic policy planner, hurriedly called a meeting of economic ministers and unveiled an array of anti-inflation measures, which observers criticize for a lack of fresh stimulus. The recently-announced steps boil down to a freeze of public service charges during the first half of this year, tightening credit card use, and curb of housing rentals.

These steps will little contribute to the price stability. In particular, the government's pledge to freeze public service charges for six months is a kind of tactic to fool the people in that most public utility rates were raised merely a month ago.

Officials attributed a drastic trade deficit in January to the sharp increase of imports of crude oil and its derivatives since the eruption of the Gulf crisis. A large amount of oil was imported when oil prices reached the highest levels as tension was at its peak before the U.S. attack on Iraq, on which the prices became stabilized. As a result, the government's response to the Gulf crisis can be said to have obviously stemmed from misestimation and misjudgement of global market trends.

When compared with the economic conditions of other countries, it is really hard for the people to believe officials' explanations of the causes for economic quandaries as they are. This can be well seen in the United States, which witnessed a slight 0.1 percent improvement in its main economic barometer last December, despite its involvement as a main player in the Gulf crisis. This is in striking contrast to sluggish industrial activity, typified by a drop in six leading business indicators out of the total nine.

Now, the world has been undergoing a tornado of rapid changes and renovation. The world is in for an overall restructuring, led by the United States, after the war is over. Signs are accumulating for the advent of an era of Pax Americana, which experts observe will have enormous effects upon both world political and economic relations.

At a time when the nation confronts a string of difficulties at home and abroad, untimeliness and indecision of the state leadership is a taboo.

1990 Foreign Debt Shows Increases Over 1989

*SK0502012191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0056 GMT
5 Feb 91*

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 5 (YONHAP)—South Korea's foreign debt was 30.4 billion U.S. dollars at the end of October last year, up 1.6 billion dollars from 1989, the Bank of Korea said Monday.

The increase was attributable to year-round sluggish exports and a drop in foreign currency holdings, it said.

Overseas assets accounted for 27.1 billion dollars, putting the net foreign debt at 3.3 billion dollars, up 309 million dollars from a year earlier.

Burma

Former Premier U Nu's Party Deregistered

*BK0402165591 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Announcement No. 908 issued by the Commission for Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanmar on 4 February 1991, sixth day of the waning moon of Tabodwe, 1352 Myanmar era]

[Text] Subject: Cancellation of registration of the League for Democracy and Peace [LDP] as a political party

The Commission for Multiparty Democratic General Elections had issued Notice No. 1/3, dated 22 November 1988, to permit the registration of the LDP located at No. 10, Wingaba Road, Bahan Township, in Yangon [Rangoon] Division in accordance with Section 5.A of the Political Parties Registration Law.

U Than Sein, general secretary of the LDP signed the application when it was put up for registration. Later the LDP split into two groups—one led by Thakin Thein Pe and the other by U Tin Maung Aye and U Maung Maung Tar, with both factions using the same name and sign-board.

The commission therefore informed the two groups to submit a single list of the Central Executive Committee agreed unanimously by the two groups. As they failed to submit the Central Executive Committee list, the commission announced that it would not make any contacts with the two factions of the LDP and that contacts would resume only when a single party was formed.

The State Law and Order Restoration Council, under Order No. 5/90, issued on 11 October 1990, dismissed some patrons and Central Executive Committee members of the LDP as they had failed to resign from the parallel government established by U Nu. Among those dismissed was General Secretary U Thein Sein. The absence of the person who had signed the application for registration, the continued existence of the LDP as two factions, and the failure to reconstitute into one entity make the party null and void.

The commission therefore announces the cancellation of the registration of the LDP with effect from today.

By the authority vested in me,

Signed: Aye Maung, secretary

Phone Myint Views Current Political Scene

*BK0502042191 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1411 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Speech by Lieutenant General Phone Myint, secretary of the National Intelligence Bureau and minister for home and religious affairs and for information and

culture, delivered at a meeting of chairmen and representatives of 58 political parties based in Rangoon, held at the National Intelligence Bureau Office on 1 February 1991—recorded]

[Excerpts] Today's meeting has been called by the National Intelligence Bureau [NIB], which is in charge of national security, to address certain issues to responsible persons of political parties. What we would like to say is that the Defense Services have assumed state power since 18 September 1988, a fact which the distinguished persons present here are well aware of. After we assumed state power, political parties were formed with the permission of our Defense Services and the SLORC [State Law and Order Restoration Council]. We did not allow the formation of political parties in order for them to attack our Defense Services and SLORC, and now we find that some political parties are preparing to attack our Defense Services and SLORC.

I shall elaborate by saying that some political parties, which do not desire the existing stability and peace in our Union of Myanmar [Burma], are condoning unrest, feigning ignorance, resorting to surreptitious means, and sending some of their members into the jungle while keeping some in the towns. As the distinguished persons here already know, Sein Win and his team were sent to insurgent Nga Mya [Bo Mya of Karen National Union] with instructions to set up a parallel government. We find here a pattern of struggle aimed at attacking us from both sides.

As for us—the Defense Services—we do not care how they attack. The Defense Services, as you know, do not care about any enemy, be it an internal enemy—which we have been fighting for over 40 years—or an external enemy. [passage omitted]

All India Radio [AIR] in its evening broadcast on 12 January carried a report headlined: Two members of the National League for Democracy [NLD] seek asylum. The report said two NLD members had entered Mizoram State and requested political asylum in India and that ten more NLD members of parliament were expected to seek political asylum in India.

In my capacity as secretary of the NIB, I wrote a letter dated 16 January 1991 to U Aung Shwe, chairman of the NLD, saying that under Article 176 it was my responsibility to find out the names of the NLD parliamentary representatives who had sought political asylum. The two points raised in my letter were: What were the names of the two representatives and did he have any knowledge of 10 NLD representatives seeking political asylum in India. In his reply dated 18 January 1991—No. 013/1-91—U Aung Shwe replied that the NLD did not know the identity of the persons referred to in paragraph A of the letter and he had no knowledge of paragraph B. We received this letter which was couched in a rather callous manner.

We received another letter dated 23 January 1991—No. 015/1-91—signed by U Lwin of the NLD informing the

NIB on the issue of some missing NLD representatives. The letter addressed to us from U Lwin, NLD secretary, referred to the letter of U Aung Shwe of 18 January 1991 and informed us that the Central Executive Committee of the NLD had been informed on 23 January 1991 that on 31 December 1991 U Tin Tun Aung, representative from Yinmabin-2 constituency, while personally settling accounts at the Office of Land Records, was told by U Chit Khin of Monywa that Dr Tint Swe, representative of Pale-2 constituency, and U Than Sein, representative of Pale-1 constituency had reached India.

If we study these events we can see that the NLD has been sending their representatives, who have yet to be sworn in as members of parliament, to the jungles while keeping their contacts above ground and establishing contact with insurgent Nga Mya. We can clearly see the implications for instigating sedition. We find these activities, which have been coordinated with party members above ground, are aimed at undermining the stability of our country and creating unrest in our peaceful country. They are sending some of their members to India and others to the insurgents in order to confront and to stage an insurrection against our Defense Services.

We would like to say this to everyone. Our Defense Services are composed of experienced military leaders. We have repeatedly stated that we did not assume state power because we coveted power. We are doing our work out of love for the country. Persons present here are also citizens of the Union and also probably love their country. My view is that we should not turn our country into a battlefield. Therefore, at a time when our military government is striving to develop and stabilize the country, I would like to say this: Please do not foment unrest and insurrection in the country. I would like to state categorically here that if they do, decisive and effective action will be taken against any person and political party as of today. Some parties are colluding with foreigners, as you know, to create internal instability and disturbances. We have already stated that we will take decisive action against these parties in accordance with the law. [passage omitted]

Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1, personally pledged on 11 July 1990 that a meeting would be held between representatives of our State Law and Order Restoration Council and leaders of elected members of parliament from various political parties, and this has been duly made known. We also said that the issue of election expenses must be settled before such a meeting could take place. We are all Union citizens. I want you to realize that we are neither white nor black foreigners. So please first settle the accounts. Although some parties have completed settling the accounts, others have still to do so. We find some have submitted fraudulent accounts and action will be taken against them. Distinguished persons present here are citizens of the Union of Myanmar. We are also Union citizens. If you love our country do not create unrest. As stated by our SLORC chairman, we will convene a national convention to draft a firm constitution. [passage omitted]

As the distinguished persons are well aware, foreign countries are watching us so that they can enslave and subjugate us. We must not accept this. It is the responsibility of all citizens to work for the development of our nation in unity. [passage omitted] What the political parties should do from now on is to work for unity within the party, conduct organizational efforts correctly, and work in close cooperation when the national convention is convened. Today is such a time. [passage omitted]

When there is unrest in the country it is the Union citizens who die and it will be our buildings that get ruined. You and I are also likely to die from it. What is happening now is that foreigners are making Union citizens fight one another. We must be aware of this. In referring to the whites I mean the CIA. I refer to the CIA, the BCP [Burma Communist Party], the collaborators of the CIA, and all European countries included. We have the BCP on the one hand. As you know the BCP has been declared an unlawful organization since the time of General Aung San and we have been fighting against them for more than 40 years. We must take these factors into consideration. This is the time for us to be working in unity. I would like to urge you not to turn our country into a battlefield. We have to be cautious of foreign countries.

The persons present here are well aware of what is currently happening in Iraq. I want you to be aware that the Americans, in accordance with their policy of hegemony, are testing new and modern weapons on other people's territory instead of testing them in their own country, and are causing the destruction of lives and buildings of others. We must be aware of this. We cannot rule out them having plans to come and do likewise in our country. However, our Defense Services are prepared. There are precedents of annihilating enemies by joining hands with Union nationals. We repulsed the imperialists as well as the fascists. Therefore, it is necessary for our Union nationals to be united and to have unity with the representatives of political parties present here. We should consult one another in unity through weal and woe. We need to act in the spirit of love toward our country. [passage omitted]

Concerning politics, we spoke to Thakin Tin Mya [veteran politician] and he admitted to us that he was wrong in introducing Aung San Suu Kyi to the political arena. I shall not elaborate on this. We have already announced that Suu Kyi's status was affected by Article 10-E of the Election Law pertaining to "persons who are under any acknowledgement of allegiance or adherence to a foreign power, or are subjects or citizens or entitled to the rights and privileges of a subject or a citizen of a foreign power". As a military government we do not want the Union to disintegrate and we are working toward our three principle objectives of preventing disintegration of national unity and perpetuating national sovereignty. [passage omitted]

We do not want the existing unity among our Union nationals to disintegrate. As you know, former enemies who used to fight against us have now reached an understanding with us—such as the Kokang, Wa, KIA [Kachin Independence Army] Mahtu Naw group, (Khun Bayun), and (Sin Sein) from the Shan group. These point to the potential for peace in our country. We should all understand that it is not the time to be fighting among ourselves.

There are quite a number of experienced senior personages at the meeting here. We know that they have been in politics since they were very young. We do not want our country to shatter into pieces just because of foreign instigation. What I want to say is that it is essential that we work to perpetuate our national unity, preserve our union, and safeguard our independence and keep it intact.

Today, I would like to make it clear that we will take prompt and definitive action against any individual or party that tries to cause disturbances. Some political parties have been telling us to transfer power to a civilian government. If we are to hand over power to a civilian government, then we will have to hand it over to a civilian government from which we had taken power. We will not hand over power to a government of a political party or to a political party that is destroying the country. This is something that I want to make very clear. To put it explicitly, we are the people who have seized power and not the ones that have come into power easily. We came forth after seizing the power, yet today we have been very gentle in our administration. As you know in dealings with martial law, we can be pretty rough if we want to, but we prefer not to be harsh against our own citizens. What we want is smooth sailing toward results. We have been very tolerant because we are dealing with our own people, our own blood. This is well known to those present here.

Hence, I wish to urge the senior personages here to work collectively with a sense of nationalism and patriotism to prevent the enslavement of our country by others, to achieve unity among nationalities, and to keep the union intact. The reason we have invited you here to listen to us is because we know about the plan to simultaneously attack us from several sides. Let me make it clear here that we will smash any enemy who plans to attack us. That is why we have called in the leaders of the political parties. Beginning today, please stop doing things like wanting to go underground.

There are already two representatives, one from Shwedaung and one from Kama constituencies. Only yesterday, the two representatives met some journalists. They are Ko [brother] Than Kywe and Ko Myint Aung. They met foreign journalists when they were there. You may have heard about them on television yesterday.

There is no other race that can love you except your own. When foreigners say they love you, that [words indistinct]. They will never love us. Remember that. They can

never love you. They may love us just to exploit us and because they want our natural resources. There is no other way that they can like us. This must always be kept in your mind.

What I want to tell leaders of different political groups here today is that it is necessary for them to give the youths guidance so that the situation in the country is peaceful and stable. It is essential for individuals to be responsible. [passage omitted] There must be a chain of command. We must not say that a certain matter does not concern us.

Next, please do not go to the insurgents with the aim of fighting us. We are willing to fight if that is necessary. We are military leaders experienced in warfare. Please ask around about us. We are also working for the country with a true spirit of patriotism and there is not a single bit of self-interest involved. We are as you can see us and know us. Ask about us. We will not allow our history to be blemished. This is because the current period in which we are assuming responsibilities will go down in historical records. You will find out about people, the type of duties they performed, the period they were in charge, the bad or the good things they did. These will all be on record.

Hence, let me express my deep gratitude to the personages here. Please do not forget that the tiger is watching to pounce on our nation. America [preceding word rendered in English] is inciting Nga Mya [derogatory term for Bo Mya—Karen National Union leader] at Manerplaw. Dr. Tint Swe and Than Sein [elected NLD representatives] who left here for India will go to Bangkok and will meet the palefaces [Caucasians] at Manerplaw. After that meeting ... [changes thought] the palefaces are providing military training so that they can fight. We have fought them many times, and there have been instances where some palefaces have died. We are not afraid.

What I mean is, what sort of attitude is India adopting against us? Just study that. I do not want to elaborate on that. How do our neighboring countries treat us? [Sentence indistinct] It is essential to bear in mind the kind of disposition that they have toward us. I only wish to see our own people peaceful, happy, and living well. If proper meals are available every morning and evening, our country will be peaceful. If one calls in foreign troops for help ... [changes thought] Do not believe that you will be helped, if foreign troops come in. There have been many instances when they said they wanted to offer help. You may have heard about the incident in Egypt, when Anwar Sadat was alive. Problems started when one side refused to give in. We have seen many similar incidents in other places. Do not believe them. We do not trust the foreigners, not one bit. Nor do we think highly of them. We stand on our own feet, and we trust our own race and nationalities. We love our own race and nationalities. Hence, today, please try to do things with care. I conclude this speech with this request to all of you responsible party officials: Please help to provide guidance and

control so that a situation in which we have to take legal action does not arise. I thank you all. [applause]

Mauritian Trade Minister Arrives, Holds Talks

BK0102153391 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Mr. D. Gungah, minister of trade and navigation of Mauritius, and delegation arrived in Yangon [Rangoon] by Myanmar Airways this afternoon and were greeted at the airport by Brigadier General Abel, minister for planning and finance and for trade; U Maung Maung Kyaw, director general of Department of Trade; U Win Kyi, managing director of Myanmar Export and Import Services; and responsible personnel.

Mr. D. Gungah and his delegation called on Brigadier General Abel, minister for planning and finance and for trade, at the Trade Ministry at 1600 and held cordial talks on bilateral economic and trade matters. Also present at the meeting were U Maung Maung Kyaw, director general of Department of Trade; U Toe Kyi, managing director of Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading; U Win Kyi, managing director of Myanmar Export and Import Services; and responsible personnel from the Ministry of Trade.

Minister Abel hosted a dinner in honor of the visiting Mauritius minister at the Peoples' Park Restaurant in Yangon this evening.

Gungah, Delegation Depart 4 Feb

BK0502074091 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1300 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Mr. D. Gungah, minister of trade and navigation of Mauritius, and his delegation left Yangon [Rangoon] by aircraft this evening.

They were seen off at the airport by Brigadier General Abel, minister for planning and finance and for trade; U Maung Maung Kyaw, director general of the Department of Trade; U Win Kyi, managing director of Myanmar Export and Import Services; and responsible personnel of the trade ministry.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

DPRK Premier Arrives for 4-Day Visit 4 Feb

BK0402062491 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0427 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 4 (OANA-BERNAMA)—North Korean Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk arrived here Monday for a four-day visit.

He arrived by special aircraft and was met by Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar and Deputy Finance Minister Loke Yuen Yow, who is minister-in-attendance.

Yon flew in from Jakarta where he ended a five-day visit, accompanied by a high-level delegation that included Vice Premier Kim Pok-sin and Minister of External Economy Affairs Chong Song-nam. He will be accorded an official welcoming ceremony at Parliament Square later in the day.

Yon will then call on Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed for talks that are expected to centre on economic ties between the two countries.

Visits Rubber Research Institute

BK0502072091 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Malaysia could increase its export of rubber to North Korea if bilateral ties between the two countries are developed further. This was stated by Malaysian Research and Development Board Chairman Datuk Ahmad Farook Ishaq. He said the North Koreans are interested in local research and development of rubber. He hopes they will consider importing raw materials, especially rubber from Malaysia, for the development and industrialization of North Korea.

He was speaking to reporters following a visit by a 28-member North Korean delegation led by Premier Yon Hyong-muk to the Rubber Research Institute at Sungai Bulu in Kuala Lumpur. Datuk Ahmad Farook said the visitors were impressed with Malaysia's well-integrated system of research and development. The North Korean leader arrived in the federal capital yesterday for a four-day visit to Malaysia.

Government To Review Sanctions Against S. Africa

BK0402094291 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0842 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 4 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia will review its economic sanctions against South Africa following proposed apartheid reforms announced by President F.W. de Klerk, Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said Monday.

The government would review its sanctions "according to the actual situation" in South Africa, he added.

De Klerk told the South African parliament last Friday that he would scrap remaining segregationist laws by June, including residential apartheid, segregated land ownership and racial classification of people.

"We will study whether the sanctions should continue," Dr. Mahathir told reporters after opening the World Bank's development strategy symposium here. "I think we have to respond to changes that are being done by President de Klerk. He has made a lot of changes," he added.

Dr. Mahathir said he would present Malaysia's views to the Commonwealth and it would be up to the Commonwealth to make its own decision on the matter.

The last Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting hosted by Malaysia in 1989 agreed to continue sanctions against South Africa.

Turning to the Gulf war, Dr. Mahathir said diplomatic efforts should continue to seek a peaceful settlement to the conflict. "If we say diplomatic efforts have failed, we are giving in to violence as a solution to international problems," he added.

Chin Peng Vows To Renew Struggle Politically

*BK0302022391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
3 Feb 91 p 3*

[Text] Hat Yai—Former Secretary-General of the Communist Party of Malaysia [CPM] Chin Peng, yesterday said he and "several hundred" former guerrillas have applied to return to Malaysia to initiate their struggle in the parliamentary arena.

The CPM leader, whose movement laid down arms two years ago, said he was convinced they can make some positive contribution to their society and country. They wanted to return to pursue this through legitimate political means, he said.

Official Thai figures showed a total of 1,101 former CPM guerrillas had given up their armed struggle during a peace agreement worked out with the Malaysian government on December 2, 1989. Thailand acted as intermediary. Of this number about 300 wanted to return to Malaysia while the rest have been resettled in four villages in Thailand. Under the agreement, the Malaysian government would readmit the CPM members and allow them to enter the legitimate political arena.

There have been reports that Chin Peng has not applied to return to Malaysia. However, the 66-year-old former CPM secretary-general said that he had already done this through the appropriate channels last December. He is now waiting to be interviewed by Malaysian officials, Chin Peng said. He also said those wanting to return with him to start a political movement had already applied and most have been interviewed by the authorities. Some CPM members who are Singaporean also wanted to return to their country but the Singaporean government has not made its stance clear on this issue, he said.

Chin Peng declined to discuss in detail his plans for the political struggle in Malaysia. He would only say: "I am optimistic that some Malaysian people will give us political support for our political struggle.

"I am realistic that the support would not be so much that we could win a political majority or anything, but it should be enough for us to launch a political movement."

Asked if his movement would contest the next general elections in Malaysia five years from now, Chin Peng said: "I can't say yet. We will try our best, but there are a lot of problems that we will have to face." The process of forming a political party in Malaysia is a difficult task, he said.

Asked about criticism in the Malaysian Press that the CPM is not likely to have given up their ideology after having fought the government for 30 years and was using the opportunity to return and start a political insurgency, Chin Peng replied: "These people are prejudiced against us. It's a cold-war mentality. I have disagreements with the government but I think they understand our position."

He denied the CPM has connections with any political parties in Malaysia at present and said this would only happen once they get back. "We are ready to return at anytime that they are ready to have us back. "The criteria rests with the political circumstances facing the Malaysian government. So far we have no definite answer but our applications to return are in the process and may take some time," Chin Peng said.

None of former CPM guerrillas who had applied to return has been official accepted back by the Malaysian government yet.

Under the peace agreement, once CPM members are interviewed and accepted back in Malaysia they would not face detention, interrogation or restriction of movement.

"We will be free," Chin Peng said. He appreciated the government for having kept to the agreement and expected no obstacles, he said.

Pressed concerning the platform of his political movement, Chin Peng declined to answer but said: "We will respect the Malaysian constitution and its laws. The government understands this. "We have talked about this clearly with them. We will fight according to the rules and regulations of society." He would be a founder of the party to be formed, but did not know if he would be its leader because this would depend on the administrative committee of the party to be set up, he said. "All my life I have been doing political work and I believe that at the end of it I will also certainly be involved in political work," Chin Peng said.

For personal reasons some senior members of the CPM decided not to go back to Malaysia and chose to resettle in Thailand, he said.

Chin Peng denied reports that he is having a good life in Thailand and does not want to return home. "I will certainly go back. I don't know what the future will be but I think the people will give us some support," Chin Peng said. He thanked Thailand for mediating the agreement with the Malaysian government and for resettling CPM members in four villages near the border with Malaysia.

Meanwhile, Lt-Col Sisak Loetlum, an intelligence officer attached to the combined Thai-Malaysian Task Force, said that former CPM guerrillas have been working with the force to recover mines they laid in the border area.

All mines on the Thai side of the border have already been cleared and since the January 10 they had been clearing mines on the Malaysian side of the border in Pelak state.

Five teams of Thai and Malaysian officials, along with the CPM members, who are in charge of disarming the mines, have already recovered hundreds of mines, guns, detonators and supplies, buried in the area opposite Betong.

The Pelak area is expected to be cleared soon and they would then move on to clear mines in the Kalantan area opposite Narathiwat province, Lt-Col Sisak said.

Cambodia

Hor Namhong: Government To Hold Elections in 1992

BK0402145691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1433 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Feb 4 (AFP)—The Phnom Penh government will hold elections next year with or without a political settlement to its long-running war with the Cambodian resistance, officials here said Monday.

As sign of its determination, the National Assembly, or parliament, voted in its bi-annual session last week to extend its term for just one more year, a Foreign Ministry official said. The parliament was set up in 1981 and its mandate extended for five years in 1986. "This shows that we want to have general elections ... we cannot wait any longer," the Foreign Ministry official said.

In an interview here earlier Monday with the British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC), Foreign Minister Hor Namhong also said: "This is the last extension of the mandate."

"Whether there is a solution or not, in 1992 we will organise an election to show respect for democratic principles," he said in the interview, parts of which were made available to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The Phnom Penh government and the three-party resistance alliance have agreed to most major points in a peace proposal drawn up by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. This would authorise the United Nations to organise free and fair general elections in Cambodia following the forging of a comprehensive political settlement for the war-torn country. But obstacles remain in the path to such a settlement with Phnom Penh insisting on written guarantees against a return to power by the Khmer Rouge, and refusing to dismantle its administration and armed forces. However, Mr. Hor Namhong reportedly told the BBC that Phnom Penh's objections to the U.N. plan were negotiable.

Some deputies at the assembly meeting last week are said to have argued that the government should be prepared for elections next year.

The Foreign Ministry official, who requested anonymity, said the government was still seeking a settlement to the Cambodian problem. But if progress was not possible this year and if it was necessary "We want to organise elections on our own, in principle... with international observers as our guests," he said. The National Assembly would re-examine the situation at its next session, expected in July, the official said. "We need the process of negotiation to continue, but we are always thinking about organising elections by our own means, according to the constitution," he said.

The Phnom Penh government was ready to meet again with the resistance under the umbrella of the Supreme National Council (SNC), the official said.

The SNC, set up last September and grouping all four warring sides, last met in Paris last month.

Officials from France, Indonesia, Vietnam and the United Nations said Saturday in Hanoi that a fresh meeting of the SNC, which should represent Cambodian sovereignty ahead of U.N.-run elections, would be useful.

Soviet Official Confirms Continued Military Aid

BK0402153591 Hong Kong AFP in English 1522 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Feb 4 (AFP)—Moscow continues to supply Phnom Penh with military hardware, but stands by its proposal for a moratorium on overseas arms supplies to the warring Cambodian sides, a Soviet official said Monday.

"We are supplying certain hardware," the official said, adding that he did not know the quantities involved or dates of delivery.

"It would be plain unfair to leave them without this aid," he said, noting that the three-party resistance alliance still received military assistance from overseas. Beijing is the main backer of the resistance, but last year said it had cut supplies.

The Soviet official, who asked not to be named, said some Soviet military advisors remained in this country to teach Cambodian servicemen how to use and maintain equipment. "There is no one on combat duty or anything close to it," he said.

The resistance claims that Vietnamese combat troops remain in Cambodia some 16 months after Soviet ally Hanoi said it had ended its military presence in the country.

Vietnamese troops invaded Cambodia in late 1978 to oust the Khmer Rouge, now the military mainstay of the resistance, and install the present government.

The Soviet official said Moscow was still ready to stand by its proposal for a moratorium on overseas arms supplies to all sides in the conflict. But he said the

resistance backers believed this should be part of a comprehensive settlement, while Moscow saw such a step as an important contribution towards such a settlement.

On the subject of trade and aid, the official said that Moscow had yet to finalise its new package with Phnom Penh. In contrast to previous five-year treaties, a new agreement would only last for one year and trade and aid "will be less... That's for sure," he said, without giving figures. Oil supplies would be cut, he said.

Moscow is reviewing its global trade and aid links in light of its domestic economic turmoil and has said it will expect partners to pay for goods in hard currency at international prices. A Soviet delegation is expected here later this week to discuss the issue and perhaps seal a new deal.

AFP on 'Major Attacks' Launched by Resistance

BK0402141091 Hong Kong AFP in English 1328 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Feb 4 (AFP)—Cambodian resistance guerrillas, backed with tanks, have launched major attacks on government positions in the north and west of the country, government sources said here Monday.

Fighting had raged in recent days with non-communist factions of the three party resistance alliance near Svay Chek, close to northwest Cambodia's border with Thailand and with the Marxist Khmer Rouge from the border of Pailin in the west, the sources said.

Foreign Minister Hor Namhong, in an interview here Monday with the British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC), said the Khmer Rouge had launched a large scale offensive in the Pailin area with five tanks.

The minister said the powerful military group were apparently bent on capturing Battambang Province, in which the gem-mining town is located.

A government source said preliminary reports indicated that Phnom Penh forces had knocked out one tank and a U.S.-made armoured personnel carrier following the attack Saturday. He added the war machines were of Chinese and U.S. manufacture and said government forces had killed 85 guerrillas and wounded 166.

Observers said it appeared to be the first report of guerrillas using tanks in the Cambodian civil war.

Press reports last year said China, the main backer of the resistance, had supplied the Khmer Rouge with 24 tanks.

Pailin was captured by the Khmer Rouge soon after the Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Cambodia of September 1989 and it has held the town since.

Mr. Hor Namhong recently told journalists here the government had no plans to launch dry season offensives against the resistance, with whom they have been trying to negotiate a peace settlement.

The government source also said some 3,500 non-communist guerrillas had attacked positions near Svay Chek with six tanks and three armoured personnel carriers. Fighting was continuing, he said, adding eight tanks had been used by the Khmer Rouge at Pailin. He also said there had been fighting in the central Cambodian province of Kompong Thom in which 64 guerrillas were captured.

A Foreign Ministry official said mortars, assault rifles and other military equipment had reportedly been recovered from guerrillas in fighting near the province's district town of Staung.

The town straddles the important Highway Six which links Phnom Penh with the northwest along the northern shore of the Tonle Sap lake. He said he had heard two Khmer Rouge tanks were knocked out near Pailin but said the Defence Ministry should be contacted for official confirmation.

Ministry officials were not immediately available for comment.

SPK Reports on Military Activities in Northwest

BK0202134991 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0445 GMT 2 Feb 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 2 Feb (SPK)—In the week ending 26 January, troops of the three opposing Cambodian factions fired several artillery shells on some areas in the northwestern part of the country, particularly in Battambang, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey, and Banteay Meanchey Provinces, to cover infiltrations for sabotage activities.

During the same period, the Cambodian People's armed forces launched counterattack operations and put out of action 230 intruders, including 130 killed and 77 taken prisoners; 23 others were forced to surrender. We also seized 166 assorted weapons, 12 walkie-talkies, and a quantity of war materiel.

In Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province 77 enemy soldiers were put out of action, including 40 killed, 31 taken prisoners, and six forced to surrender; 29 weapons and a walkie-talkie were also seized.

From 17 to 22 January, the provincial armed forces in Kompong Thom put out of action 149 enemy soldiers, including 82 killed, 56 taken prisoners, and 11 forced to surrender; 135 weapons were seized and 10 camps destroyed.

Commentary Views Peace Talks in Thailand, SRV

BK0202150991 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 2 Feb 91

[PRACHEACHON commentary: "A Major Contribution to the Search for a Political Solution to the Cambodian Problem"]

[Text] Although war has broken out in Iraq with the U.S. and allied forces in a serious and complex situation which has become the focus of the international community's attention, diplomatic activities around the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem continue and are making remarkable progress.

In fact, from 1 to 4 February, the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC]—Edwige Avice, high-ranking official of the French Foreign Ministry, and Foreign Minister Ali Alatas of Indonesia—along with Rafiuddin Ahmad, deputy UN Secretary General, will be in Vietnam and Thailand to hold consultative talks with Vietnamese and Thai leaders on the draft peace plan for Cambodia worked out by the five major powers in November 1990. We welcome this effort of the PICC cochairmen and hope that these meetings contribute to advancing the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem and finding new light to break the deadlock and overcome obstacles and difficulties in negotiations for a genuine and long-lasting peace for the Cambodian people, based on the principle of respect for Cambodia's sovereignty and the Cambodian people's right to self-determination and the prevention of the genocidal Pol Pot regime's return.

It is very regrettable that lately, although the State of Cambodia's government expressed its goodwill and sincere desire and made many concessions, including the withdrawal of all Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia, the sharing of 50 percent of power with the tripartite coalition government—a government in exile with no territory and people—and the acceptance of an appropriate UN role, the tripartite alliance tries to find ways and tricks to lay blame, which it has created, on the State of Cambodia's Government.

The irrefutable proof is that while the Paris International Conference cochairmen are making efforts to solve remaining and pending issues in the draft UN agreement, Sihanouk and the tripartite alliance launched a slanderous campaign accusing the State of Cambodia of building secret weapons and ammunition depots and saying that tens of thousands of Vietnamese troops are in Cambodia, aimed at creating new obstacles and difficulties for the meetings of the conference cochairmen so that these meetings achieve nothing. It should be stressed again and again that in any negotiations and decisions on the Cambodian problem, the Cambodian people's genuine interests should be first taken into account, namely the respect of Cambodia's sovereignty and the Cambodian people's right to self-determination with a clear guarantee on the non-return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime.

Our struggle is to defend the UN Charter, which all members of this organization abide by, not just through words but through deeds as well. We express the hope and conviction that the meetings of the PICC cochairmen in Vietnam and Thailand, which will discuss the UN draft agreement—based on the written confirmation of His Excellency Rafiuddin Ahmad, deputy UN

Secretary General, at the December meeting in Paris, on the non-dissolution of the Cambodian Government during the transitional period, the UN role, and the relations between the United Nations and the Supreme National Council—would provide new light to the meetings for the forthcoming session of the Paris International Conference's coordinating committee.

To achieve a political solution to the Cambodian problem, the State of Cambodia, which is resolutely fighting to prevent the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime, should not be forced to accept a political solution which, once again, plays with the Cambodian people's lives against the genocidal Pol Pot regime.

Party Daily Refutes Sihanouk Claim on Stockpiling

*BK0202102191 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1300 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[PRACHEACHON commentary: "Beware, It Is a Double-Edged Knife"]

[Text] Sihanouk, ringleader of the tripartite coalition—who recently was found guilty by a Paris court of defaming Comrade Hor Namhong, foreign minister of the State of Cambodia [SOC], in contravention of history and political dialogue—has lately accused the SOC government of secretly building up stockpiles of arms and ammunition in areas along the border adjoining Laos and Vietnam. Along with this, his group has also raised the obsolete allegation that Vietnam has left behind tens of thousands of its troops in Cambodia. This was rejected by the SRV Foreign Ministry's spokesperson as groundless slander. The absurd, baseless accusation and defamation claimed by Sihanouk and the tripartite coalition have clearly shown their wicked intention to create more new difficulties and obstacles to the process of seeking a political solution to the Cambodian problem and to put the blame on the SOC. It is not by chance that Sihanouk and the tripartite coalition launched the propaganda campaign to libel the SOC and Vietnam at this point in time. Also, this is aimed at destroying the diplomatic mission to Vietnam and Thailand conducted by the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia in order to jointly settle the remaining key issues in the peace negotiations for Cambodia. More importantly, they have poisonously manipulated the Cambodian issue with the aim of forcing the SOC to commit suicide, to demobilize its army, and to disarm and destroy the capability of its armed forces, which is the only force decisively fighting them to defend the people's authority and to block the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime. Sihanouk has protected the genocidal Polpotist clique by turning a blind eye to and saying nothing about his group, which continues to commit crimes against the people and to receive foreign military aid aimed at intensifying military operations in conjunction with political and diplomatic maneuvers in order to topple the SOC and reinstate the genocidal regime in Cambodia.

It is worth recalling that with goodwill and sublime willingness to settle the Cambodian conflict via a political solution, the SOC Government has provided facilities to a great many UN fact-finding missions which have visited the SOC on a number of occasions to study circumstances there with a view toward creating an orderly and neutral atmosphere for a political settlement and free, just elections in Cambodia. On the contrary, to date border areas temporarily controlled by the groups of the Khmer Rouge Polpotists, Sihanouk, and Son Sann are off-limits to international observers.

We categorically reject the accusation and slander claimed by Sihanouk and consider this a provocation to create obstacles to the process of achieving a political solution to the Cambodian problem in keeping with the Cambodian people's aspiration and expectation. Sihanouk should put a halt to his habit of telling lies, slandering people, and turning white into black and good into bad. It is a double-edged knife.

National Assembly's 20th Session Closes 2 Feb

*BK0402122791 Phnom Penh SPK in English
1057 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK Feb. 4—The National Assembly of the State of Cambodia closed its 20th session Saturday after a six-day sitting (Jan. 28-Feb. 2) with National Assembly Chairman Chea Sim in the chair.

By analysing the concrete situation of the Cambodian society since the country's liberation from the genocidal Pol Pot regime and as required of the half-war and half-peace state which reigns the country for more than a decade due to the sabotage acts of the genocidal Pol Pot clique and its allies, the National Assembly highly appreciated the efforts made by the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and the Council of Ministers in overcoming all difficulties and bringing about the all-round development in the society, especially in saving the country from the genocide, hunger diseases and illiteracy.

The National Assembly approved the report of the Council of Ministers on the socio-economic development plan and the financial and budgetary situation in 1990 and the state financial and budgetary plan for 1991. The deputies also debated about urgent problems relating to, among others, the taxation, the reduction of the import of luxury goods, the price control, notably the price of most necessary goods to ensure the daily life of the population and the circulation of goods, the control of speculating transaction of goods, the management of electricity, means of communications and drinking water.

The National Assembly urged the government to tighten the control of passengers crossing the border in order to have a better perception of the right, exercised by the customs, to apply a stronger economic, agricultural, commercial industrial and financial management.

The National Assembly applauded the measures taken by the Council of Ministers in fighting against the negative phenomena that would be detrimental to the rights, the freedom and the legitimate income of the Khmer citizens and the state property as well.

The National Assembly also paid particular attention to strengthening the social law, aimed at defending the legitimate right of the mass population to become the master of their country, and realizing the slogan: "Everything for winning greater confidence of the population in the new regime," the deputies were of the opinion that it was necessary to enhance the respect and right implementation of statutory provisions, the respect of equality before law and the guarantee of social justice.

To enhance the social law and to warrant the norms of law in favor of the activities of the Council of Ministers, the National Assembly adopted eight laws concerning the perception of taxation including credit tax, tax on marking seal, slaughter-house, means of transport, fiscal stamp, postal-due stamp and receipt stamp, the certificate of patriotic contribution and lottery.

Among the important problems of its session, the National Assembly also took particular interest in the quest of a political solution to the Cambodian conflict.

It highly appreciated the constant efforts made by the Council of Ministers which always respect the principled stance adopted by the National Assembly on a firm and resolute struggle for a settlement of the Cambodian conflict so as to defend the national independence and sovereignty, the right to self-determination of the Cambodian people, the respect of the UN Charter and the prevention of the recurrence of the genocidal regime.

Chea Sim Gives Closing Address

*BK0402145591 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1114 GMT
4 Jan 91*

[Text] Phnom Penh 4 Jan (SPK)—"Our state has no interest in opposing the UN role in Cambodia during the transitional period if this role does not violate the UN Charter itself and does not place the Cambodian people under the threat and risks of an uncontrollable civil war provoked by the genocidal Pol Pot criminals and their allies and if it does not harm the national sovereignty of Cambodia."

This was affirmed by Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia, in his closing address to the 20th National Assembly session.

Chairman Chea Sim, also Political Bureau member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense, went on:

A complete political solution can be regarded as comprehensive and equitable when it takes into consideration the current political and military realities in Cambodia

where there are two opposing parties, the government of the State of Cambodia and the government of the tripartite coalition of Democratic Kampuchea. Besides, the United Nations must not decide on problems pertaining to the sovereignty of Cambodia when its internal affairs must be decided by the Supreme National Council. The plan to set up a provisional UN administration in Cambodia would be reasonable only if it guarantees the holding of free and fair general elections [words indistinct] when the UN administration or the representative of the UN secretary general are vested with a special power to govern Cambodia, that constitutes a violation of and interference in the internal affairs of this country which thereby would find itself placed under a neocolonialist trusteeship, contrary to the UN Charter. The State of Cambodia's acceptance of a reduced UN role in the political settlement of the Cambodian problem constitutes an immense contribution to the cause of peace and national reconstruction.

As a preparation for the implementation of the right to self-determination and for the expression of the national will, our National Assembly urged the Council of Ministers to encourage and to act in conformity with its competence in cooperation with the United Nations so that elections within the framework of the political solution can take place in a free and fair manner and in a neutral atmosphere.

The State of Cambodia respects the universal declaration on human rights and all internal agreements on human rights, first of all the international convention on the prevention and suppression of genocidal crimes. The Cambodian people throughout the country believe that the prevention of the genocidal regime's recurrence is a question of major importance to be settled and mentioned in the document on the political solution to the Cambodian problem. The fact that the international community, which knows very well of the acts of genocide in Cambodia between 1975 and 1978, is afraid to take necessary measures to eliminate the possibility of the reemergence of that regime in Cambodia constitutes a source of encouragement for the criminals of genocide and might help promote the blooming of rancorous feelings and retaliation by the genocidal clique against the Cambodian population.

On the military issue within the framework of the political solution, our National Assembly noted the complexity of the situation which might generate violations, because the military forces of the other Khmer party are scattered everywhere, with neither fixed positions nor real headquarters. They are deployed in small mobile groups with the possibility of hiding their arms, munitions, and military equipment in the jungles and isolated zones and to use them when necessary for sabotage and subversive activities and for cease-fire violations.

In that case, the risk of an uncontrollable civil war always threatens the Cambodian people, and this might go as far

as to block the general elections when the armed forces are dismantled and disarmed.

In this context, the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia deems that the maintenance of the political and military status quo in Cambodia is an effective measure for the goal of a global political solution to prevent an eventual return to war and to maintain security, especially to create mutual trust between the warring Cambodian parties, which is an indispensable basis for the process of a political solution.

The Cambodian people are very happy to see the current opportunity for peace and voice their readiness to seize this opportunity to achieve national reconciliation, put an end to the conflict, and rebuild the country into an independent, peaceful, democratic, neutral, and non-aligned state without the shadow of another genocidal tragedy.

Chairman Chea Sim stressed that by virtue of the Constitution of the State of Cambodia and at the proposal of the Council of State, the 20th session of the National Assembly decided to prorogate its [words indistinct] National Assembly issued out of the 1981 general elections has already been extended for five years, that is, until 1991, he said. It decides to prolong its term by one more year considering the constraints of the situation where the process of a political settlement is at its peak. In reality, we are in a position to unilaterally organize general elections within the framework of the State of Cambodia. But in order to encourage national reconciliation and the efforts of the international community for a political settlement of the Cambodian problem, we agree to prolong it for another year.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, the National Assembly calls on the other Khmer party to show a sign of patriotism and to move toward bringing an end to the conflict [words indistinct] and the exhaustion of the country's potentials. It calls on the other Khmer party to adhere without delay to a cease-fire in view of the general elections, which is the only and best way within the democratic framework. The year 1991 constitutes the best opportunity for national reconciliation. The other party should stop obstructing the political settlement [words indistinct] take part in the reconstruction of the society.

"Peace is not very far away, therefore we must not let it get away from us," noted Chairman Chea Sim, who afterward called on parliaments, governments, intellectual, religious, and scientific circles, and peace- and justice-loving peoples the world over to increase their contributions to the realization of the political solution to the Cambodian problem. He also appealed to international humanitarian organizations as well as government and nongovernment organizations to bring their material and financial assistance to the Cambodian people, particularly to the homeless, the invalids, and the Cambodian women who are victims of war.

UNESCO Delegation Leaves After 17-Day Visit

BK0502122691 Phnom Penh SPK in English
1103 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK February 5—A UNESCO delegation led by Mr. Chiba Akihiro, director of the Bureau for Coordination of Operational Activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, left here today after a 17-day visit to Cambodia. Talking to an SPK correspondent before his departure, Mr. Chiba Akihiro said he was impressed by the rapid development in all domains in the city of Phnom Penh and a number of localities in different provinces where he made a tour from Jan. 16 to Feb. 5.

On the UNESCO's project in Cambodia, he said the UNESCO was interested in this and would make great efforts to safeguard and restore the Angkor Wat temple and other architectural monuments in this country. He said that the UNESCO would closely cooperate with the Ministry of Education of the State of Cambodia to further enhance the educational system here and proposed to sponsor a national conference on education in Phnom Penh. He further said that the UNESCO would send its experts to organize a training course for the staff members of the Cambodian Broadcasting Corporation, and they would seize that opportunity to convey to them the precious work relating to the conservation of this famous wonder.

This was the second Cambodia visit of Mr. Akihiro since the downfall of the genocidal regime in 1979. His visit was made in early 1980.

Radio Criticizes Chea Sim's 10 Jan Statement

BK2601091391 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian
2315 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Station commentary: "The Hanoi Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors and Their Lackey Puppets in Phnom Penh Continue To Stubbornly Oppose the Document of the Five Permanent Members of the UN Security Council"]

[Text] Mr. Chea Sim, traitorous Vietnamese lackey puppet leader, on 10 January arrogantly stated that they are bent on opposing the dissolution of the puppet regime and army and are against a UN peacekeeping verification force in Cambodia. Both the race-extermimating Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their lackey puppets have continued to clamorously voice through radios and newspapers their objection to a UN role in Cambodia during the transitional period. The vociferous opposition by the Vietnamese enemies and their lackey puppets to the peace plan forged by the United Nations is clear evidence that:

1. The race-extermimating Vietnamese enemy aggressors have not renounced the Indochinese federation strategy of swallowing Cambodia and turning it into a Vietnamese province. They have continued their war of invasion with the aim of further occupying Cambodia,

and they do not want to end the war via a comprehensive political solution based on the document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC].

2. The Vietnamese enemies do not want a UN peace-keeping verification force in Cambodia because they need to continue to hide their troops to protect their puppet regime from collapsing and so that they can continue to occupy the country forever.

However, despite their blatant opposition to the framework document of the five UNSC permanent members, the international community, the tripartite national resistance forces, and the Cambodian people—who are longing for peace and security and want the Vietnamese war of invasion in Cambodia to end—will in no way allow the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their lackey puppets to stir up trouble at will. They will continue to jointly pressure the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their lackey puppets until they are forced to seriously settle the Cambodian problem via a comprehensive political solution in keeping with the framework document of the five permanent members of the UNSC and the draft agreement dated 26 November 1990.

The Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their Phnom Penh puppets have been entangled on the battlefield and ensnared by the document. They would never be able to free themselves of it in spite of their utmost efforts.

Commentary Says Peace in Hands of Vietnamese

BK0402094191 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Political commentary: "Cambodia's Peace Is in the Hands of the Vietnamese"]

[Text] The settlement of the Cambodian problem enters its final stage, and the negotiations at this final stage are the talks conducted by the cochairmen of the Paris conference on Cambodia and the deputy UN secretary general with Vietnam. As such, Cambodia's peace is in the hands of the Vietnamese, meaning that peace depends on Vietnam's ultimate decision. This is the incontestable reality.

After meeting the cochairmen and the deputy UN secretary general in Hanoi yesterday, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach voiced support for the peace plan hammered out by the Big Five. But he still sternly insisted on amending certain clauses of the draft blueprint. In view of the required amendment that the SRV foreign minister discussed with reporters, Vietnam seems to totally endorse the peace plan, except for some insignificant points. However, experience tells us that the provisions Mr. Thach requires in order to improve the document could concern the important vital points that cannot be modified. Irrational interpretation is a commonplace action of the Vietnamese.

We are of the opinion that the achievement of peace in Cambodia depends on a solution that can settle these two issues: The danger posed by the return of the Khmer Rouge and the danger posed by the policy of aggression against the Cambodian nation and motherland implemented by Vietnam using the Khmer Rouge as a pretext. It is obvious that Vietnam so far is opposed to the measures spelled out in the Big Five's peace plan for resolving the two above-mentioned issues.

Using as a channel the Cambodian group it has propped up, Vietnam has opposed disarming all the Cambodian parties as well as dispatching a UN peacekeeping force for maintaining peace and order, which is the indispensable measure for preventing any possible danger posed by the Khmer Rouge. Vietnam has also opposed an enhanced UN role on the grounds that it fears the United Nations will violate Cambodia's sovereignty. This is because Vietnam intends to preserve the authority of the Vietnamese-installed communist regime contrary to the Big Five's plan aimed at thwarting the Vietnamese policy of aggression against Cambodia.

If Vietnam genuinely wants Cambodia to recover peace, it must wholeheartedly accept the necessary measures formulated in the Big Five's peace plan for blocking the return of the Khmer Rouge as well as eradicating the Vietnamese policy of aggression in Cambodia. Conversely, if Vietnam continues to persistently reject all those essential provisions, then this is tantamount to admitting its desire to further carry out its policy of invasion in Cambodia. Vietnam is undisputably responsible for the continuation of the war in Cambodia, and the Hanoi communist leaders must be held accountable for their ambitious policy and crimes against both the Cambodian and Vietnamese peoples.

Indonesia

Antiwar Appeal to UN; March on U.S. Embassy

BK0402154391 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1504 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 4 (OANA-ANTARA)—Some 100 people who are members of the Indonesian Anti-War Action Committee (KAAP) Monday afternoon assembled at the United Nations representative office in Jakarta for submitting a call to end the armed conflict in the Gulf region. The appeal was received by Deputy Resident U.N. Representative Frismark.

The U.N. official promised to send the appeal to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in New York.

The call carried a proposal for a U.N.-sponsored referendum in Kuwait occupied by Iraq since August 2, 1990, and to leave the control of the Gulf waters to the Gulf states, and that damages be given to those who have become victim of the war.

The resolution also hoped that the crisis, which has blatantly violated basic human rights, such as the conflicts with regard to the people of Palestine, South Africa, Cambodia, Panama, Northern Ireland and the Philippines, shall not be repeated in the future.

"They should be given the right of self-determination through a referendum," Damayanti said.

The committee also said that the United States has been acting as a world police, and underlined the importance of a withdrawal of the multinational forces led by the United States from the Gulf region and an Iraqi pullout from Kuwait.

A large poster held up by the protesters read "Bush multinational force; U.N.; oil ; war: Stop your crime terror in the Gulf". Another [words indistinct] Jakarta, proceeded peacefully for about 30 minutes, but caused traffic congestions on the Jalan Thamrin thoroughfare.

Later on they marched to the United States Embassy at Jalan Merdeka Selatan, chanting slogans of peace.

Suharto Calls For Prayers To End Gulf War

BK0502053391 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0448 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Yogyakarta (Central Java), Feb. 5 (OANA-ANTARA)—President Suharto called on the nation to pray to God for the end of the Gulf war soon when he opened the 15th Koran reading contest here Monday [4 February] night.

During the opening ceremony, which was also attended by representatives of other countries, the president expressed the hope that all parties involved in the Gulf war will refrain from taking military actions so as to create a peaceful situation in the Middle East.

The war should not bring about a calamity to the Middle East nations that can make them lose their hope to enjoy a peaceful situation and their opportunity to carry out development, the president revealed.

If the war runs protractedly, the hardships and destruction borne by military actions forces will be more terrifying, and the adverse impact will severely burden the world economy and hamper development conducted by nations in the world, he went on.

Delivering the opening address before teams of participants from the 27 provinces in Indonesia, the president said the Koran reading contest regularly held in Indonesia is significant to the propagation of Islamic teachings in the country.

The contest should serve as a means for the enhancement of religious awareness in Indonesia, the head of government emphasized.

On the occasion, he also stressed the need to set up mosque libraries as part of the efforts to improve the

religious knowledge and sciences of Muslims and to stimulate their participation in development.

In this connection, he called on Muslims' organisations to seek to set up such libraries, as Muslims must never stop studying.

Mme Tin Suharto earlier in that day opened an exhibition of the 15th Koran reading contest.

The first lady and the president, accompanied by a number of Cabinet ministers, after the opening of the exhibition visited stands displaying developments in religion, communications, information, industry, trade, tourism and post.

The exhibition which also displays Islamic calligraphies, will last till February 10.

Departure of Workers to Saudi Arabia Suspended

BK0502105391 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0941 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 05 (OANA-ANTARA)—The departure of at least 5,744 trained Indonesian workers to Saudi Arabia has been suspended because of the Gulf War, Manpower Minister Cosmas Batubara said here on Tuesday.

Most of them have obtained a passport and a visa, the minister told Commission VI of Parliament. When they will actually go to Saudi Arabia in the future will be determined by development in the Gulf, he said.

Batubara admitted that indirectly the Gulf crisis had affected Indonesia's program of sending workers for employment in other countries, especially in the Middle East.

According to plan, Indonesia intends to find employment for at least 500,000 Indonesian workers abroad in the five-year period of the Fifth Five-Year Development Plan (1989-1994).

Due to the Gulf crisis, Indonesia now has to step up its effort to find employment for its workers in other labor markets such as Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei, and the European countries, Batubara said.

In Saudi Arabia at present 99,986 Indonesians are working for various employers in 22 cities. Saudi Arabia has been clamoring for more Indonesian workers to replace Yemenis who had been returning to their countries as a result of the Gulf crisis, Batubara said.

IMF Official on Gulf War, Global Recession

BK0402114091 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1014 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 04 (OANA-ANTARA)—An executive director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Je Ismael of Indonesia, said it was feared the economic

recession which was beginning to hit the U.S. as an effect of the Gulf war would turn into a recession of a global scale.

However, he told the 16th Conference of Southeast Asian Central Banks (SEACEN) which ended here over the weekend that not all of the industrial countries will face a recession, according to a news release of Bank Indonesia on Monday.

The economic gears of Japan and Germany are expected to go on courses different from that of the U.S. economy although the recession in the U.S. is feared to lead to a global recession, Ismael said according to the release.

Ismael further said as an effect of the recession, sources of funds from the industrial nations for development in the developing countries would undergo difficulties. This is because the trend toward a global recession can lead to a tightening of global liquidity, he said.

The SEACEN conference ended with an agreement among the participants to step up and expand cooperation in the monetary field.

It was opened by President Suharto on Wednesday (30/1) with central bankers from Malaysia, Korea, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, Myanmar, Fiji, Sri Lanka and Indonesia attending.

Official Says Gulf War Not Affecting Trade

BK0502052791 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0453 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 5 (OANA-ANTARA)—The Gulf war so far has not affected much Indonesian international trade, head of the International Trade of the Central Bureau of Statistics Juwono Hadipramono disclosed here Monday [4 February].

The country's export-import activities are not much influenced by the Gulf war since the value of trade with the Middle East countries is relatively low compared with that with Japan and the European Economic Community, he said. However, he admitted that analysis of the impact of the Gulf war on Indonesia's international trade could not be made yet. Indonesia exports plywood, textile, paper, and iron to the Middle East.

Referring to Indonesia's imports, the official explained that the country's imports from the Middle East countries, specifically oil and gas, has been sharply fluctuating.

Indonesia's imports from Iraq have declined by 95 percent since the United Nations applied economic sanctions against the Mideast country. Iraq invaded Kuwait on August 2 last year and declared the tiny oil-rich country one of its provinces.

Indonesia has diverted its oil import to Iran since war broke out in the Gulf, the official said.

The diversification of oil import to Iran was harmful to Indonesia since trade between the two nations was not carried out on the basis of countertrade, he explained.

Religious Councils Call For Peace in Gulf

BK0102100791 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0000 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Five religious councils in the Interreligious Consultative Council in Indonesia, having followed events in the Gulf war closely, have concluded that the war has inflicted destruction not only on the warring parties, but also on the whole human race and the world's environment. For this reason, the religious councils believe that the Gulf war must be stopped immediately so as to avoid greater devastation.

Speaking on behalf of these religious councils, (Probokusumo), secretary to the MUI [Indonesian Council of Ulema], expressed hope that all religious followers in Indonesia as well as international religious organizations will urge the warring parties to stop fighting and hold peace talks.

[Begin (Probokusumo) recording] Religious councils in Indonesia grouped in the Interreligious Consultative Council have made the following appeal:

1. Religious followers in the world in general and in Indonesia in particular should not be provoked by reports that the Gulf war is a religious war;
2. International agencies, such as the Islamic Conference Organization, the World Council of Churches, the Vatican, the World Buddhist Sangha Council, the World Hindu Federation, the Interaction Council, and the Nonaligned Movement should make efforts to urge the warring parties to call a cease-fire, to be followed by negotiations to find a comprehensive solution to the Middle East conflict under the UN auspices;
3. The Indonesian Government should play a greater role in initiating a peace move in the Gulf region and the Middle East in general. [end recording]

The Interreligious Consultative Council's appeal was signed by MUI Chairman Hassan Basri, Chairman of the Indonesian Council of Churches (Sularso Supratin), the executive secretary of the Indonesian Church Trusteeship Conference, the deputy secretary general of the Indonesian Parisadha Hindu Dharma, and Teja Rashid, chairman of the Executive Council of the Indonesian Buddhist Trusteeship.

The five religious councils also called on religious followers in Indonesia to pray to the merciful God for peace in the world, especially in the Gulf region.

The statement, issued in Jakarta last night, was then delivered to Religious Affairs Minister Munawir Syadzali, who, on behalf of the government, expressed his appreciation for the five religious councils' initiative. The minister said the statement reflects the concern of

the Indonesian people, irrespective of their religion, as well as people in the world toward the impact of the prolonged Gulf war. The statement also reflects the unity of religious followers in Indonesia. The minister added that the statement, which said that the Gulf war was not a religious war, should be fully understood by religious followers in Indonesia for the sake of the national unity and social harmony we have enjoyed for a long time.

Laos

Committee Issues Statement on 'Team Spirit 91'

BK0502121591 Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Vientiane, Feb 5 (KPL)—The on-going joint military exercise "Team Spirit 91" conducted every year between the United States and South Korea is one of important events with negative impact on the effort of seeking a peaceful reunification of Korea, indicated a statement by the Lao Committee in Support of the Peaceful Reunification of Korea.

The statement added that the Korean people joined by the peace-loving people over the world voiced their concern over the matter, and urged for an end to such a joint military exercise.

The Lao Committee in Support of the Peaceful Reunification of Korea expressed support for the recent statement on the event by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. It demands the parties concerned in the Korean Peninsula to step up their efforts leading to detente and to seek fair and appropriate means in order to achieve a peaceful reunification of Korea hence meeting the desire of the Korean and peace-loving people as whole.

Central Committee Greets CPV Anniversary

BK0202124491 Vientiane KPL in English 0915 GMT 2 Feb 91

[Text] Vientiane, February 2 (KPL)—On the occasion of the 61st founding anniversary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] (February 3, 1930-1991), the Executive Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee [LPRP CC] recently sent a telegram of greetings to its counterpart of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

The telegram reads that the LPRP CC Executive Committee, on behalf of the entire Lao people, extends warm congratulations, best wishes, profound friendship and solidarity to the CPV CC Executive Committee and through it to the CPV members, peasants, working class, and fraternal people of Vietnam. It praised the growth, the leading role, and activities of the CPV, originated from the Communist Party of Indochina then headed by Ho Chi Minh.

Since the introduction of the restructuring policy worked out at the 6th CPV Congress, Vietnam's economy and its people's living conditions have been gradually improved.

All the victories and success of the CPV have raised the role and prestige of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in the international arena, and demonstrated the creative and correct policy of the CPV having Nguyen Van Linh as general secretary.

The telegram expressed satisfaction to see the constant development of the special solidarity, great friendship and all-round cooperation between the parties and the people of Laos and Vietnam. The LPRP and Lao ethnic people pledge to do their best to make the existing relations more effective in the interest of the two nations for peace and stability in the region and the world over.

The telegram also conveys the gratitude of the LPRP and the Lao people to the CPV and Vietnamese people for their valuable assistance and support to the revolutionary cause of the Lao people.

The telegram wishes the great friendship, special solidarity and all-round cooperation between the parties, governments and people of Laos and Vietnam constantly developed, and further wishes the Communist Party of Vietnam and fraternal Vietnamese people success in implementing the resolution of the 6th CPV Congress for the prosperity of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Also on this occasion, Mr. Maisouk Saisompheng, president of the Laos-Vietnam Friendship Association sent a similar telegram to the president of the Vietnam-Laos Friendship Association.

Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Pays 2-Day Visit

*BK0102111491 Vientiane KPL in English 0919 GMT
1 Feb 91*

[Text] Vientiane, Feb 1 (KPL)—A 12-member delegation of Thailand led by its deputy foreign minister, Charat Phuachuai, arrived here yesterday for a 2-day friendly visit to Laos.

The Thai delegation yesterday afternoon paid a courtesy call on Mr. Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister for foreign affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and held a discussion with Lao Deputy Foreign Minister Mr. Souban Salitthilat.

The two sides discussed the pending Lao-Thai border problems, the future mutual cooperation, especially tourism, the upgrading of the airport in Luang Prabang in northern Laos, the installation of radar and electricity at the Wattai Airport, Vientiane capital. The problems of Lao refugees in Thailand and others were also raised at the discussion.

Mr. Charat Phuachuai and his delegation also called on Lao Minister of External Economic Relations Mr. Phao

Bounnaphon and Deputy Minister of Trade and Tourism Mr. Khamphan Simmalavong. The talks dealt with the cooperation in the spheres of economy and trade between Laos and Thailand at present and in the future.

The Thai delegation will return home this afternoon.

Ceremony Marks Anniversary of Trade Union

*BK0202104291 Vientiane KPL in English 0913 GMT
2 Feb 91*

[Text] Vientiane, Feb 2 (KPL)—The Lao Federation of Trade Union [LFTU] Headquarters yesterday held here a function to mark its 35th founding anniversary.

At the ceremony, the LFTU President Bounthan Souvannasouk made a speech to a large audience, indicating the tradition and 35-year growth of the trade union, its role in rallying and educating working people throughout the period of national liberation and development.

Based on the new restructuring policy of the party and government, the trade union's president called on unionists and workers to step up their commitment to strengthening their union, organisations activities in contribution to national defence and national socio-economic development.

He also called on the party-state organisations at all levels to create conditions to the trade union so that it can operate according to its role.

World Bank 'Pleased' With Economic Management

*BK0102124291 Vientiane KPL in English 0901 GMT
1 Feb 91*

[Text] Vientiane, Feb 1 (KPL)—The World Bank's Vice-President Attila Karaosmanogly, who is in charge of the World Bank's operation in the Asian region, said at a press conference held yesterday at Lan Xang Hotel that he was pleased with and welcomed the initial achievement of Laos in implementing the new economic management mechanism as well as the Lao Government's effort to realise the policy.

He added that this policy won support from foreign countries, especially the World Bank that has over the years provided Laos with considerable assistance in its revised economic structure and economic development.

The vice-president of the World Bank asserted that the World Bank will support more aid projects for Laos. These involve assistance in telecommunication, agriculture, education, public health, development and promotion of Lao women's interest.

Mr. Attila Karaosmanogly has led the high level delegation of the World Bank on a 5-day visit to Laos since January 28.

Meeting Held on Swedish Aid Agreement

*BK0102111091 Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT
1 Feb 91*

[Text] Vientiane, Feb 1 (KPL)—Laos and Sweden have agreed to develop economic cooperation, in which Sweden will help Laos in its economic development. This covers communication, forestry, public health, and administrative management sectors, economic reform process, in addition to cooperation in promotion of Lao women, culture, and environmental protection.

The agreement was reached at a meeting held here between January 28-30 between a Lao delegation led by Deputy Minister of External Economic Relations Dr. Kithong Vongsai and a Swedish delegation led by its SIDA's [Swedish International Development Agency] deputy-director general.

Within the framework of the Swedish aid programme, the Swedish Government has proposed to increase aid to Laos by 110 million kronor a year or 18 million dollars between 1991-1993. In 1990-1991 its aid to Laos accounted for 100 million kronor (16 million dollars).

The Swedish Government will continue supporting forestry project amounting to 120 million kronor (20 million dollars) to be realised in 4 years between 1991-1995.

In addition, the Swedish aid will be continued for the construction project of Road 13-south (third phase) from Thabok to Pak Kading worth 170 million kronor (28 million dollars).

The work will start in 1991. At the same time, the Swedish Government will also assist, if necessary, at a limited amount in consultancy expertise within the framework of maintenance of the Roads 8 and 9.

The Swedish side in 1990 ceased its aid for the KM-14 repairing workshop. However since the aid originally allocated for the project remains, it was deemed necessary to extend the contract term to June 1991. The sides also agreed that if the fund is not fully used by then the allocated aid can be used for other projects.

In electricity works, the Swedish aid will be continued in short-term training and consultancy. This means the contract term will be extended 1 year more to June 1993. In fact the construction of the Se Set electric power station will be finished by 1992.

In public health, Sweden will increase more aid through UNICEF, with focus on mother and child care. In addition, consideration will be made on aid for clean water and sanitation projects, necessary medicine supply and control.

The Swedish side has provided a 5 million kronor fund (800,000 dollars) for training, including consultant service, in important sectors, such as economic reform, poverty combat, in addition to statistics collection necessary for the socioeconomic planning.

Sweden will also provide a 150,000 kronor aid to cultural-promotion, including maintenance of Luang Prabang Museum and national library. It also intends to assist "Vannasin" Magazine in the years to come and to provide a special fund to environmental protection project.

The Swedish Government has given 500,000 kronor to the Lao Women's Union and is prepared to make technical aid available to it.

The inter-governmental negotiation and the conclusion of agreement on the bilateral cooperation will be held in either Stockholm or Vientiane, the date of which is to be determined later.

Philippines

Iraqi, Palestinians 'Apparently Sent To Bomb' Clark

*HK0502104691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1033 GMT
5 Feb 91*

[Text] Manila, Feb 5 (AFP)—Philippine troops have been sent out to search for an Iraqi and two Palestinians who were apparently sent to bomb the U.S. Clark Air Base, the Philippine armed forces chief said here Tuesday.

Lieutenant General Rodolfo Biazon said the three arrived as tourists and were heading for the giant U.S. facility when they vanished after a bungled bombing attempt by another group at a U.S.-run library in Manila last month.

He said the three unnamed men may still be hiding in the Philippines and that he could not rule out a fresh Iraqi terror plot in this country, which hosts the largest U.S. bases overseas and more than 100,000 American citizens.

An Iraqi man was killed and another wounded when a bomb they were trying to plant at the Thomas Jefferson library on January 19 exploded prematurely. Manila expelled a senior Iraqi diplomat and two Iraqi students allegedly linked to the bombing plot.

Lt. Gen. Biazon said the attempt to bomb chemical tanks near a U.S. naval base in Virginia "tells us maybe they are still at it," referring to threats of terrorist strikes by Iraqi or pro-Iraqi groups.

He said it was "very difficult to say" whether the terrorist threat had passed in the Philippines but stressed that security forces had taken "appropriate efforts to neutralize them."

Suspected Terrorists Use Ethiopian Passports

*HK0502032191 Manila Far East Broadcasting
Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 5 Feb 91*

[Text] The Commission on Immigration and Deportation [CID] arrested officials at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport for the entry of suspected Middle East

terrorists who carry authentic Ethiopian passports. According to CID Commissioner Andrea Domingo, the terrorists have 140 Ethiopian passports. She ordered airport officials to arrest anyone in possession of these documents.

Ramos Defends Delay of U.S. Equipment Delivery

*HK0402045591 Manila BUSINESS WORLD
in English 4 Feb 91 p 12*

[By Ma. Caridad S. Bautista]

[Text] The delivery of much-needed engineering equipment under the Military Assistance Program has again been delayed. Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos said the delay was caused by the war in the Gulf, where most of the U.S. military transport are being used.

The delivery of the engineering equipment was previously postponed to early this year from last year.

Mr. Ramos, however, said this should not be taken as a sign that the United States has reneged on its promise. "Circumstances prevented them from doing so," he said.

Transportation needed to bring these equipment into the Philippine have been deployed in the Middle East to transport troops, weapons and supplies of the U.S. military. Military sources said these equipment will possibly be delivered only in 1992.

The Philippines' military engineering brigade is in dire need of tractors, cranes and trucks needed to build infrastructure in the provinces.

The engineering brigade forms part of the military's economic support to areas affected by intensified military operations against the Communist New People's army, and as a social function of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines].

Department Protests U.S. Aid Transferral

*HK0502040191 Quezon City MALAYA in English
5 Feb 91 p 3*

[By Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text] The Department of Foreign Affairs [DFA] is protesting the deduction of \$60 million from the 1991 bases compensation package, which was transferred by the U.S. government to the Philippine Assistance Program [PAP], a highly reliable source said yesterday.

The source said the DFA asked the U.S. Embassy to clarify the deduction of \$30 million from the Economic Support Fund and another \$30 million from the Development Assistance to enable the U.S. to meet the \$160 million it promised the Philippines.

"This is a big issue," the source said, adding that the Philippine panel in the bases talks will take the latest U.S. move to renege on its economic commitment to the

Philippines into serious consideration during the last round of negotiations next week.

The source said the U.S. Embassy has not replied to the DFA's request for clarification.

The U.S. Embassy released last week figures of their 1991 assistance to the Philippines. It showed \$120 million for ESF instead of \$150 million and \$40 million, instead of \$70 million it originally committed.

In the same release, the U.S. Embassy also said, "Congress has appropriated \$160 million for the PAP for 1991, maintaining the same level as last year in the face of significant pressure for budget reductions."

The source said apparently only \$100 million was appropriated for this year's PAP.

The source also said the U.S. has to fill up the \$160 million pledge for the PAP because it is a lead country in the multicountry effort to rehabilitate the economy of the Philippines and it would set a bad example to other donor countries in the forthcoming pledging session in Hong Kong.

Group Assails Platt Remarks on Manglapus Speech

*HK0502034891 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 5 Feb 91 p 8*

[Text] Cebu City—The Pro-Bases Secretariat (PBS) warned the Americans it could lose the goodwill of many Filipinos if it is "going to throw an imperious tantrum everytime we call a spade a spade, in keeping with the American tradition of straight talk."

Roger Vallena, PBS secretary-general, deplored U.S. Ambassador Platt's reaction to the foreign policy speech of Secretary Raul S. Manglapus in which he described the U.S. as "constable America."

Platt took offense in this characterization, claiming it was "uncalled for, inaccurate and offensive."

"The remark that sparked this minor controversy certainly describes accurately what the U.S. has been to the world," Vallena said, adding that U.S. President George Bush's avowal of U.S. "responsibility to lead the world away from the dark chaos of dictatorship" is simply an echo of U.S. foreign policy since the Monroe doctrine in the 1800s, the containment policy of the cold war era, and even in this age of glasnost and perestroika.

The Americans should instead focus on their commitment "to meet the needs of America" (as constable of the world).

"We are ready to give it (the U.S.) time to adjust," Manglapus said in his speech, when he referred to "a new collective security consensus."

"Mr. Platt should welcome the challenge of Mr. Manglapus for the U.S. and the Philippines to collaborate in the conversion of base lands to modern industrial use, a

gestation period that could give birth to a regional security consensus," Vallena said.

The PBS secretary-general said the Americans could have misread the Manglapus speech, which painstakingly highlighted the efficiency of the "well-oiled U.S. propaganda machinery in the on-going bases talks."

Nomination of New Soviet Envoy Reported

HK0102054991 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 2 Feb 91 p 1

[By Marie Rose Feliciano]

[Text] The Soviet Union has nominated Vitaly Borisovitch Koutchouk as its new ambassador to the Philippines, the foreign office said yesterday.

Koutchouk, 58, was the counsellor from 1977 to 1980 at the Soviet embassy in Malaysia. He was the deputy chief of the Department of Southeast Asia in the Soviet foreign ministry from 1980 to 1985. From 1985 to 1989, he was the minister counsellor of the Soviet embassy in Indonesia.

He has been deputy chief of the Directorate of the Countries of the Pacific and southeast Asia since 1989.

Koutchouk, who joined the diplomatic service in 1964, succeeds Oleg Sokolov, the outgoing soviet ambassador to the Philippines.

In another development, Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus told President Aquino that it would help Philippine-Soviet relations if the Philippine government would support the reforms initiated by President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Manglapus noted that the present political turmoil in the Soviet Union could affect the two countries' relations, especially in trade. There is an enormous growth potential in the Vladivostok trade or trade between the Philippines and the Soviet Far East, but the present turmoil in Soviet politics might have a "negative impact" on it, he said.

Court Clears, Releases Military Rebels

HK0502114491 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] The Philippine Army disclosed today that 34 military men implicated in the 28 August 1987 and December 1989 coup attempts have been cleared and released as a result of the ruling made by Court Martial No. Nine, headed by General Raul Imperial.

Included in those released are 12 officials and 22 enlisted personnel, headed by Col. Antonio Romero and Lt Col. Gerry Albano of the general headquarters.

Captured Soldier: Coup Plotters Earned Salaries

BK0202100891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0956 GMT 2 Feb 91

[Text] Manila, Feb 2 (AFP)—An ex-soldier captured here Saturday admitted that soldiers aiding military coup plotters were earning salaries of 1,400 pesos (50 dollars) a month, Philippine intelligence officers said.

The intelligence officers said the renegade soldier, whom they identified only as an "enlisted man," was involved in past bloody coup attempts against the government of President Corazon Aquino, and was captured in a suburban apartment Saturday.

The captured renegade, who has also been linked to several bank robberies, admitted that enlisted men aiding the coup plotters were receiving a monthly salary of 1,400 pesos but reportedly said "it was not enough" for their needs.

There were no details as to how many people were receiving such salaries or where the money was coming from. Another soldier and two civilians found in the vicinity of the arrest were also brought in for questioning.

The military has charged that the coup plotters are resorting to bank robberies and extortion to raise funds. A spate of violent bank and armoured car robberies in recent months have involved heavily armed men who easily outgun the lightly armed bank guards.

The military claims that right-wing plotters, who have launched seven failed takeover attempts since 1986, will cease to be a threat by mid-year but the plotters have been threatening to mount a fresh coup attempt.

Army Battalion Said Supporting Rebel Soldiers

HK0402045891 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 4 Feb 91 p 7

[By Dave Veridanio]

[Text] An army battalion based near Metro Manila is being closely watched by the Armed Forces intelligence community for allegedly supporting the cause of the rebel soldiers, the INQUIRER learned yesterday.

Sources at Camp Aguinaldo said an investigation was under way. The battalion commander and several other officers have been placed on a "watch list," the sources said.

The report surfaced over the weekend after the arrest of two suspected rebel soldiers believed responsible for the killing last week of two counterintelligence agents inside Fort Bonifacio, the headquarters of the Army.

A senior intelligence officer, who spoke of condition he was not identified, said the Army is believed to be heavily infiltrated by military rebels.

The Army rebels played a key role in the December 1989 coup attempt and the pocket rebellion launched by Anny Col Alexander Noble last October in Mindanao. The top rebel soldier, Gregorio Honasan, was an Army officer.

The suspects in the Fort Bonifacio killing were not identified pending results of their interrogation. They were arrested Friday morning in an apartment in Diliman, Quezon City.

Lt Gen Rodolfo Biazon, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff, said two intelligence men were killed while monitoring the activities inside the fort of the Revolutionary Alliance of the Masses—Soldiers of the Filipino People—Young Officer's Union (RAM-SFP-YOU).

Biazon identified the slain agents as Sgt Ricardo Lagdaan and Sgt Quintin Inigo of the AFP counter-intelligence command.

He also said the killers were members of a rebel group led by former Marine Sgt Orlando Ayeras, formerly assigned with the Ministry of National Defense security group led by Honasan.

Some Army battalions in Mindanao were also reported to have given sanctuary to RAM-SFP-YOU leaders whenever they visit the area to recruit more members.

European MP's To Discuss Insurgency With Aquino

HK0402050191 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 4 Feb 91 pp 1, 8

[By staff member Lito Zulueta]

[Text] Visiting members of the European Parliament will take up with President Aquino today proposed measures to end the communist insurgency peacefully, a Malacanang official said yesterday.

The official, who declined to be identified, said the delegation is expected to present to Mrs. Aquino a copy of the parliament's recent resolution raising fears that the stalled peace talks with the armed left might result in a setback for human rights in the Philippines.

Members of the delegation include Omen Ruijlen, Patrick Mark Cooney, Carlos Robles Piquer, Franco Borgo, Gunther Rinsche, Bernard Saelzer, Filippus Xenophon Pierros, Ruth Bahnmann, Eckherd Hofer Awe and Uwe Keueger.

The President will host a luncheon for the delegation, which will also be attended by Bernabe Buscayno, the founder of the New People's Army who now runs a successful farmers' cooperative in Tarlac.

The discussions with the Filipino peace advocates, which began in August, have been delayed by a series of attacks by communists mostly in urban centers. Authorities accused the left of instigating the violent workers' strike on Oct. 24 last year where buses were burned.

The Malacanang source said the recent offer of the National Democratic Front [NDF] to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to launch terrorist attacks against nations supporting the allies in the Gulf war had also dampened peace initiatives with the left.

Recently, communist rebels tried to attack the Voice of America radio facility in Capas, Tarlac.

According to Bro. Rafael Donato, head of the Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines, the peace advocates want the government and the rebels to start their peace talks on June 12, the Philippine National Day.

But the government and the peace advocates have yet to convene a meeting after a two-month lull.

The official said the parliament resolution had been referred to Cluster E, the Cabinet committee for security, which is expected to recommend to the President a course of action.

Although the meeting today will raise the thorny issue of human rights, the official said the recent parliament resolution represented a departure from its strong stand against alleged human-rights violations in the Philippines.

On July 12, 1990, the parliament issued a resolution on "the increasing violations of human rights in the Philippines."

However, it also recognizes "the immense problems which face the Philippines: a foreign debt of \$28 billion, enormous loss of income because of the Gulf crisis, and the devastating consequences of the recent earthquake."

It expressed concern "that the peace process might be endangered by militaristic elements within the armed forces and other extreme political groups" and also raised fears that "a failure of the new peace initiatives will entail a further worsening of the human rights situation in the Philippines." In addition, the resolution:

—"Endorses and supports the ongoing peace negotiations between the government, the various political groups and the NDF.

—"Encourages both parties to continue with their efforts to negotiate and forge a comprehensive agreement for a just and lasting peace through the solution of basic national and social problems and, pending this, to agree on mutual respect for human rights in conformity with the humanitarian norms of war as established in the Geneva Convention and its protocols."

Army Chief Reveals 'New Combat Strategy'

HK0502035591 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 5 Feb 91 p 5

[By staff member Manny Mogato]

[Text] A new combat strategy to hasten the tactical defeat of the communist guerrillas by concentrating

firepower and increasing maneuver units' mobility in priority areas in the countryside was unveiled yesterday by army chief Maj Gen Lisandro Abadia.

The scheme, codenamed "Rolling Thunder," calls for the concentration of manpower and resources on priority guerrilla fronts and the quick tactical move to defeat the enemy by combining firepower and mobility.

The strategy was developed by Brig Gen Regino Lacson, the new AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] deputy chief of staff for operations (J-3), and was effectively used in the Zamboanga peninsula to defeat the communist guerrillas.

Sources said the strategy was so effective that the military dismantled the guerrilla front, "Amores," in the northeastern part of Zamboanga during a three-to-six-month period last year.

"It is actually the application of the campaign plan Lambat-Bitag on the ground," Lacson told reporters. "It is based on the two principles of war—mass and economy of forces."

By concentrating manpower and resources on a certain priority area, the military can effectively defeat the communist guerrillas in tactical operations.

For instance, the army can deploy four main battle groups in a priority district committee of the New People's Army [NPA] to wipe out the rebel regional guerrilla unit (MRGU), their largest contingent in a given area.

The deployment of support mobile groups would give the military more chances in "entrapping" NPA large formations at pre-determined areas or ambush sites.

Officials Urge Lifting Cease-Fire in Quake Areas

HK0502035691 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 5 Feb 91 p 9

[By Manny Mogato]

[Text] Senior military and police officials in the earthquake-affected areas have asked the government to lift the suspension of military operations order in their areas because of intensified political and armed activities of the communist guerrillas.

Brig Gen Ernesto Calupig, commander of the northern Luzon command (Nolcom), claimed several rebel initiated engagements had been recorded during the last four months indicating that the New People's Army were abusing the "peace zone" areas.

The government had offered a unilateral suspension of military offensive in the Mountain Province and Nueva Vizcaya to allow reconstruction in these areas which were heavily-damaged by the July killer earthquake.

Several "peace zone" areas were established to allow speedy economic recovery in these areas but the rebels "have wantonly abused and exploited the situation," Calupig said.

For instance, he pointed out, several remote detachments of army and police units have been attacked and harassed by the guerrillas.

The suspension of offensive operations also allowed the political leaders of the communist movement to move around and recruit guerrillas.

The suspension of military offensives had "given the rebels a breathing spell and allowed them to regroup and consolidate their forces," Calupig said.

Calupig said the six-month lull in military offensives have allowed the rebels to expand their political base as well as recover some losses.

Although the military could still perform police duties and go on pursuit operations, the military felt that their hands were tied and they could not "throw a free punch."

Camp Aguinaldo officials, however, wanted peace zone areas to continue in the countryside as long as these are the initiatives of the local residents and are community-based.

Salonga Unconcerned About Reports of His Removal

HK0402120991 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 4 Feb 91

[By Cesar Chavez of Mobile Unit No. 9—italicized passages are in English]

[Text] Senate President Jovito Salonga said today that he will never be a puppet of any government. This was his reaction to a report that some pro-administration senators want to replace him as senate president. According to Salonga, he is not worried about any threat to remove him as senate president because he would like to serve the Filipino people based on his conscience and not based on the dictates of the government in power.

It will be recalled that President Aquino repeatedly criticized the senate leadership for being uncooperative about the programs of Malacanang, and the latest of such is the letter of intent controversy.

Salonga also said that he doesn't intend to change the convictions of his fellow senators if they desire to be puppets of the government.

[Begin Salonga recording] [words indistinct] *one can do is worse, I can only try to do my best. I know my stand already. Any would-be schemer, a schemer can do his worst; I can only try to do my best. [end recording]*

Meanwhile, Senator Butch Aquino denies that he and his House group, plus other senators, plan to remove Salonga. According to the senators, the Ahas [snake] Group, are pro-administration senators who are frequently called on by the president. These are Senators Angara, Herrera,

Aquino, and Saguisag. Aside from the Ahas Group, President Aquino also calls for Senators Gonzalez, Tamano, Paterno, Ziga, Lina, Shahani, and Alvarez.

Senator Jovito Salonga discovered that the head of the group seeking his ouster as senate president was Senator Butch Aquino.

[Begin recording] [Aquino] *I wanted to be clear that we have not officially discussed any move to oust Senate President Salonga.*

[Reporter] *You did not officially discuss, but informally you discussed the subject?*

[Aquino] It comes from you; it did not come from me.
[end recording]

Following the report that Salonga will be ousted, the majority of senators seem to be supportive of him.

Opposed to the reorganization of the Senate are Senators Juan Ponce Enrile, Ernesto Maceda, Orlando Mercado, Teofisto Guingona, Senator Laurel, Wigberto Tanada, Joseph Estrada, Victor Ziga, and even a number of pro-administration senators like Senators Gonzalez, Alvarez, Angara, and Joey Lina.

The attempt to oust the Senate President Salonga, dubbed as Operation Senate Storm, has failed again.

Senator: Bank Governor, Secretary Face Arrest

HK0402122191 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Senator Joseph Estrada reiterated that punishment is due to traitors against the country. He accused Central Bank Governor Jose Cuisia and Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao of not disclosing to the public the conditions behind the negotiations with the IMF regarding the new loans. Estrada said the two of them should first reveal the demands set by the World Bank and the IMF before entering into negotiations. He added that once they return to the country, they will be arrested. The Senate is now preparing the necessary measures for such an action.

Rebels To Try Former Captain at Kangaroo Court

HK0402121791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Regarding the abduction of retired Captain Estelito Moredo by the New People's Army, we received an intelligence report saying that he is now under the custody of Leopoldo Mabilangan, alias Comrade Hector, of the Banahaw command. He will be brought before a kangaroo court, where he will be tried for crimes against the people.

Congressman Asks Recruitment of Former Rebels

HK0102125391 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Surigao Congressman Mario Serra Ty proposed that former rightist and leftist rebels should join the military in fighting the government's enemies. House Bill No. 33404 states that if these former rebels are enlisted in the military they can show that they are still of use to the government. He cited that during the Second World War the society's undesirable elements were trained and recruited by the government. During the Japanese invasion, Colonel James Cushing, who was then the guerrilla chief in Cebu, used this method, which proved to be successful.

Thailand

Four 'Suspected Arab Terrorists' in Custody

BK0402144091 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Thai officials are holding four suspected Arab terrorists in custody. Thai officials had ordered the four suspects out of the country a few days ago but no country agreed to accept them. Nepal declined to accept the suspects and returned them to Thailand. Thawatchai Kitiyaphichatkun reports the following:

[Begin recording] The four suspected Arab terrorists—two Iraqis and two Jordanians—were detained on board a Royal Nepal Airlines [RNA] plane by immigration and airport officials as soon as the plane arrived in Bangkok yesterday evening. The Nepalese officials had expelled the four suspects and returned them to Thailand, where the four had been detained for three days under tight security. They arrived in Kathmandu, Nepal, from Bangkok last Thursday [31 January] after Thai officials tried unsuccessfully to send them to Malaysia and Jordan.

According to the original plan, the four persons who were held on the plane when it arrived in Bangkok were to be sent back to Nepal by RNA flight RA408 at 1430 today. But the plane postponed its departure indefinitely although the 180 passengers of the plane were ready for the departure. Officials of the airline only gave a brief reason for the plane's delay while an immigration official said that there was a problem on concluding an agreement to send the four suspects to Nepal again. However, Thai officials finally decided not to send the four people, considered persona non grata by Thailand, to any country and will put them under detention for a period, but they do not say where the four will be kept. The RNA plane left Thailand at 1800. [end recording]

'Excessive' TV Coverage of War Angers Muslims

BK0302022091 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Feb 91 p 1

[By Soemsuk Kasitpradit in Hat Yai]

[Text] Government television coverage of the Gulf War was cut in the South yesterday at the urging of the Fourth Army Region due to fears of increasing pro-Iraqi sentiment among Muslims in the region.

Local security officials and Muslim leaders told the BANGKOK POST that in two separate incidents in Yaha and Banang Sala districts in Yala last month, radical Muslims smashed television sets that were broadcasting Gulf War news.

The radicals accused the commentator of the television station of siding with the allied forces, said the sources, but after breaking the television sets, the Muslims paid the owners for new ones.

Although the violence was isolated, security officials said they were shocked and concerned that pro-Iraqi sentiment among local Muslims might be exploited by trouble makers.

Fourth Army Region deputy commander Maj-Gen Kitti Rattanachaya called an urgent meeting recently of a group set up to solve Muslim problems.

Reporters and Muslim leaders in the four provinces of Yala, Pattani, Narathiwat and Satun were also invited to the meeting.

Most of the participants agreed that excessive television coverage of the Gulf War had angered Muslims, particularly the less educated who did not know that the war had been caused by Iraq's invasion and occupation of Kuwait, said the sources.

These people could only see that the United States, a superpower, was attacking Iraq, a Muslim country, the sources added.

After the meeting, the Fourth Army urged the Government to cut its television coverage of the war.

Mr Osman Tohmeena, a municipal councillor for Yala's Muang District, said that most Muslims in the South were peace-loving, but he was afraid that radicals might exploit tension created by the war.

A senior police officer complained that television stations were competing to present the most war coverage without realising its impact on Muslims.

He claimed that Singapore and Malaysia have less television coverage of the war.

Chatchai Asks Reduced Coverage

BK0502075291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0655 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Bangkok, Feb 5 (AFP)—Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan has told Thailand's five television channels to cut back their reports on the Gulf war, a Thai Government official said here Tuesday.

The call came amidst fears among military leaders that the extensive war coverage was sparking unrest amongst the large Moslem population living in the south of the country.

"The wide coverage is having a negative impact on Thai Moslems," said a senior Thai army official.

The prime minister has asked the television companies to reduce coverage to one hour at midday and 30 minutes in the evening. At one time several channels were broadcasting war coverage for up to six hours a day.

Since the Gulf war began there have been several public demonstrations by militant Moslems, supporting Iraqi leader Saddam Husayn and protesting against the United States.

Thai newspapers have reported that authorities were keeping an eye on a number of insurgents belonging to the two main Moslem separatist movements based in the South—Pattani United Liberation Organization (PULO) and Barisan Revolusi Nasional (BRN).

A number of PULO and BRN members are believed to have been sent to Middle Eastern countries over the past five or six years for terrorist training, according to military intelligence reports.

The prime minister has also asked television and newspapers to refrain from focusing on stories about the "terrorist threat" in Thailand, claiming such news has affected the country's tourism industry.

The U.S. Embassy here last week issued a warning of a possible terrorist threat and advised Americans and other Westerners to keep a low profile and refrain from visiting locations where Westerners normally congregate.

Thailand has ordered the expulsion of four men suspected of being terrorists, although an attempt to deport them to Nepal failed when Kathmandu sent them right back to Bangkok.

Foreign Schools Reopen After Terrorism Warning

BK0402065291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0548 GMT 4 Jan 91

[Text] Bangkok, Feb 4 (AFP)—Bangkok's foreign schools reopened here Monday after a two week close-down because of fears of terrorism related to the Gulf war, school officials said.

Officials at the International School Bangkok (ISB), which has many students belonging to the U.S. diplomatic and business community, the British Bangkok Pattana School, and the French school said strict security precautions were to be enforced both within school compounds and during transportation of students.

"I must admit that some of the parents are still very nervous about security risks, and so are we, but we have put up maximum security in cooperation with Thai security agencies," an ISB official said.

The ISB and the French school closed January 17, the day war broke out in the Gulf between a U.S.-led international force and Iraq. Bangkok Pattana School had stopped classes one week earlier because of impending hostilities.

Shortly after the beginning of hostilities the United States and other Western countries, including Britain, warned their nationals of a "credible threat" of Gulf-related terrorist attacks in the Thai capital.

Commentary Reviews Thai-North Korean Relations

*BK0502125691 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English
1500 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Commentary: "The Relationship Between Thailand and North Korea"]

[Text] Thailand and North Korea established diplomatic relations on 8 May 1975. Since then, the relationship between both countries has gone on very well. Mr. Li Chong-ok, North Korea's former prime minister, visited Thailand in February 1982. In return, Mr. Phichai Rattakun, Thailand's former deputy prime minister, went to North Korea in 1984. Two years later, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila, Thailand's former foreign affairs minister, and a delegation led by deputy commerce minister paid an official visit to Pyongyang. But most importantly is the visit of Her Royal Highness Princess Kalayaniwatthana to North Korea in 1987, which elevated the relationship of the two countries to a certain degree. Presently, Thai ambassador to Beijing is accredited to Pyongyang while the North Korean ambassador to Kuala Lumpur doubled as ambassador to Bangkok.

About commercial relation, Thailand and North Korea have had trade contacts since 1977. On 2 December 1978, the two countries signed a trade agreement together. On 25 December 1979, an office of North Korean trade representative was opened in Bangkok. Then, as a further development in trade, Thailand and North Korea agreed that a committee on trade between the two countries to be established later. They signed an agreement to set up such committee in Pyongyang. The two-way trade between the two during 1985 to 1989 averaged 618 million baht a year with a balance mostly in favor of North Korea. Thai exports to North Korea comprised mostly of agricultural products, such as rice, coffee beans, tapioca flour, and raw sugar, while North Korean main exports to Thailand are fuel products and raw silk.

Another milestone to boost relations with Thailand is the visit of North Korean Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk to Thailand during 29 to 31 January 1990. Mr. Yong was accompanied by a 30-member entourage which included his deputy Kim Pok-sin and International Economic Minister Chong Song-nam. He was received at the Don Muang airport by Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan.

This is the second visit of a North Korean premier since the two established diplomatic ties in 1975. Premier Yon's three-day visit concluded in positive note, in which he and his Thai host, Premier Chatchai Chunhawan, agreed to boost economic cooperation. Most importantly, North Korea has won Thailand's approval to open an embassy in Bangkok. Thailand has found it timely to review its ties with Pyongyang because political and military climate on the Korean Peninsula appeared to be evolving into a positive direction. North and South Korean leaders held the third round of unprecedented talks in September last year in an effort to ease tension on the peninsula. The talks had yielded few results.

The North Korean premier informed Thai premier on his three-day official visit that the fourth round of talks will be held soon and that Pyongyang has expected a positive outcome. In parallel to this effort, the two Koreas are seeking to secure either partial or full diplomatic ties with others' allies. South Korea established diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, once a close ally of the North Korea, in September. Furthermore, it has trade office in Beijing, which is another Pyongyang's ally. At the same time, North Korea made a surprise move to push for a full normalization of ties recently with Japan—an enemy and a close ally of Seoul—a move which apparently was aimed at sustaining its flagging economy, hurting from the dry up of assistance from its long-time backers, the Soviet Union and China.

So far, North Korea and Japan have held three rounds of preparatory discussions which began last November, the first official contacts between two countries. Mr. Yon Hyong-muk's current visit through Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, and Jakarta is seen as a diplomatic drive to foster closer ties with Southeast Asian countries as its previous socialist allies in Eastern Europe are having enough trouble trying to survive politically and economically as cold war barriers have (?fallen). This matter of fact comes in line with the Thai premier's move to review its ties with socialist countries in order to seek broader market for Thai goods.

As a result of Premier Yon's visit, North Korea has agreed to purchase an extra 1 million tons of rice on a two- to three-year term and 500,000 tons of tapioca from Thailand. It also agreed to continue supplying fuel and is ready to sell an additional 300,000 to 400,000 tons of cement to Thailand, of which market now lacks. The North Korean premier also expressed his government's desire to upgrade the current joint trade commission to an economic level to promote trade between the two countries. Even though Thailand's strengthening of ties with North Korea is no longer a factor in its relations with South Korea for the two Koreas are going in great length to accommodate each other, the Thai Government is careful and prudent in handling with North Korean premier's visit. In other words, Bangkok's close relationship with South Korea was carefully weighted by the government before its decision to upgrade ties with North Korea. This was because the two-way trade between Thailand and South Korea is estimated at 1

billion U.S. dollars yearly, compared to 18 million U.S. dollars with North Korea. Moreover, South Korea ranks third behind Japan and Taiwan as a major foreign investors in Thailand.

In allowing Pyongyang to open an embassy in Bangkok, the Thai Government has pledged to lobby ASEAN to adopt South Korea as its full dialogue partner, which currently include the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, and the European Community. However, what seems to be the most difficult task for Thailand at present is to balance its relationship with the two Koreas. Thailand is now waiting for development on the Korean Peninsula before taking any step further. Premier Chatchai once said that peace and stability in Southeast Asia and on the Korean peninsula will contribute greatly to the present effort to promote cooperation in economic development in the Asia-Pacific region as a whole.

SIAM RAT Opposes Opening North Korean Embassy

*BK0202101191 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai
2 Feb 91 p 8*

[Editorial: "Do Not Rush To Open a DPRK Embassy"]

[Text] The thaw in Thai relations with socialist and communist countries, which culminated in closer contacts with those countries beginning with China, has resulted in a more relaxed policy concerning urban communism. People who are in any way anticommunist are now viewed as being chronologically out of place. Association with communist countries has become the thing to do; you are out of place if you avoid contact with those countries.

This could be just the reason the Chatchai government agreed with the DPRK to open embassies in each other's capitals as soon as possible. Insiders should know by now the outcome of the 31 January negotiations between the Thai and DPRK teams on the embassy issue.

Regardless of how necessary or beneficial the government sees it to rush to open an embassy with the DPRK, we wish to register our opposition for the following reasons:

First, to what degree can we trust the DPRK not to use its embassy to conduct espionage or smuggling operations? The DPRK embassies in several countries have been known to commit just such activities.

Second, there is considerable possibility that North and South Korea will be able to reunite in the near future, as was the case between East and West Germany. Why rush to open the DPRK Embassy now? Would it not be wise to wait until the two countries reunite?

Third, it is not diplomatically, politically, or economically necessary for Thailand and the DPRK to open an embassy in each other's capitals. Trade can be conducted through the existing trade liaison office.

Generally speaking, we do not agree with opening a DPRK embassy in Thailand due to past undesirable behavior of North Korean diplomats abroad.

We should be aware that in the past the DPRK secretly gave continued and considerable support to international terrorism. It has not been able to conceal this fact; terrorist organizations in the Middle East, Germany, Italy, or Japan all have a history of connection with the DPRK.

We wish to appeal to the government not to be tempted by minor benefits that arise from trade with the DPRK. Please review the decision on establishing the DPRK Embassy. There is no rush. The current level of bilateral relations is good enough. Let us wait until the DPRK has proved that its international political behavior has improved before we reconsider its embassy in our country.

U.S. Pharmaceutical Petition 'Upset' Government

*BK0202034791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
2 Feb 91 p 13*

[Text] The Thai Government was upset that the American Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association [PMA] had filed a petition against Thailand for failing to provide patent protection for pharmaceutical products.

However, Commerce Permanent Secretary Phatchara Itsarasena told BUSINESS POST he was hopeful Washington would decide not to investigate the issue, because Thailand was making progress in reforming the Patent Act.

The PMA filed a petition with the US Trade Representative [USTR] on Wednesday under Section 301 of the US Trade Act, seeking the US Government to take trade action in retaliation for the lack of patent protection for pharmaceutical products in Thailand.

Under US law, the USTR has 45 days to decide whether to accept the PMA petition.

Mr Phatchara said there was no doubt the PMA petition aimed to force the Thai Government to provide adequate and effective protection of pharmaceuticals.

He said US private sector feared that Thailand might delay amending the Patent Act due to the failure of the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade talks.

But it was not useful to pressure Thailand in this way because it might hamper trade relations between the two countries, he said.

The matter was still being negotiated under the framework of the Thai and US Trade talks.

Mr Phatchara said Thailand had agreed to include the protection of pharmaceutical products under the Patent Act and was committed to introducing the Patent's amendment to Parliament this year.

The US move might damage the progress made by the Thai Government because it could become a political issue and be difficult for the Government to explain to the public.

Mr Phatchara hoped Washington would not accept the petition for the sake of keeping good relations between the two countries.

Another Commerce Ministry senior official said a sub-committee had finished drafting comprehensive reforms to patent legislation and would submit it early next month to the committee reviewing Thailand's intellectual property rights protection.

Under the draft, more protection for pharmaceutical products was likely to comply with the outcome of the GATT talks.

The source said the sub-committee agreed to extend the protection period for new inventions from 15 to 20 years, and make some conditions of compulsory licensing more practical.

He said it was necessary to keep some regulations of compulsory licensing to ensure that foreign pharmaceutical producers did not monopolise the market, which might hurt the public, but still give priority to patent holders to sell their products.

It was likely Commerce Minister Ameret Sila-on would hold informal talks on the matter with USTR Carla Hill during the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, this week.

Foreign Minister Discusses Cambodia, Burma, Gulf

*BK0102123991 Bangkok KHAO PHASET in Thai
7-13 Jan 91 pp 30-33*

[“Exclusive” interview with Foreign Minister Dr. Athit Urairat by KHAO PHASET “recently”—place not given]

[Excerpts] [KHAO PHASET] Our policy on Cambodia seems to be of particular interest to many people. There has been criticism that Thailand once adopted three different policy lines on Cambodia: that of the Foreign Ministry, that of Ban Phitsanulok or of the prime minister, and that of the military. What is your opinion about this, and which of the three will the Foreign Ministry under you opt for?

[Athit] It might have been as you said in the eyes of the outsiders. But in my opinion, the three policy lines have one thing in common, and that is peace for Cambodia, an end to the fighting, and self-determination for the Cambodian people. This is what the three groups are after. And their aim is identical to the resolution adopted by the United Nations and the aspiration of the international community.

In this connection, we must say that the three lines of approach represent one policy, and the Foreign Ministry is upholding that policy. In the past we may have

adopted different approaches to solve the Cambodian problem, but I think the problem has evolved to a stage where different approaches are bypassed now. We have come very far now, and differences in thinking on the problem have been reduced or entirely eliminated. We have come to the stage where it is no longer necessary for us to be as much involved as in the past. We made our stand much clearer when we helped them set up the Supreme National Council and paved the way for a greater UN role. I think everyone supports this position, not only the people in Thailand, but also the three Cambodian factions, the United Nations, and other countries concerned. [passage omitted]

[KHAO PHASET] Do you have anything else to add concerning the policy on the Indochinese countries?

[Athit] We have made considerable progress in this respect, and this is demonstrated by our growing trade with Indochina. Moreover, the problem of mistrust between Thailand and the Indochinese countries has been considerably ameliorated. There have been regular exchanges of official visits, from high to low levels. I will have nothing special to add in this area. What I may add is that the level of Thailand's relations with Indochina remains very low compared with relations between Thailand and the ASEAN members. Therefore we may have to try to improve our relations with Indochina making them more compatible with our relations with the ASEAN countries. We may have to increase our role as mediator. That does not mean we want to be the “leader” in this region. What we want to be is just a “coordinator,” and this role will be in keeping with our national interests. It would be too ambitious for us to play the role of “leader” in the region. What I think is we can best play the role of a coordinator in this region. We will try to eliminate mistrust and uneasiness between Thailand and its allies.

[KHAO PHASET] Some members of your Solidarity Party once wanted the government to clarify its stand with regard to the present Government of Burma, or Myanmar. Now that you have become foreign minister, do you have any initiative concerning this issue?

[Athit] The problem with Burma is a sensitive issue. It was true that some members of the Solidarity Party wanted to know the clear-cut stand of the government. Well, concerning myself, I must say that I am a cabinet minister under the democratic system, and I have been fighting for democracy all along. Naturally, I uphold and cherish democracy as well as those fighting for democracy. I have always given priority to the problem of human rights throughout my political career.

That is my personal attitude, but I do not know if that clearly answers your question about my stand. Speaking on behalf of the Foreign Ministry, I would like to say that there will be no big changes in relations between Thailand and Burma. Besides, based on the data we have, we will have to pursue the policy adopted by the previous

government, more or less. In any case, this does not mean that I do not support democracy or respect human rights.

[KHAO PHISSET] What about the Thai-Burmese border issue caused by the frequent spillover of border shellings or incursions into our territory by the fighting Burmese factions?

[Athit] An important aspect concerning this problem is that we must quickly claim compensation for our people according to what they are entitled to. Burma agreed on paying compensation to our villagers. This is the most important aspect we have to tackle.

[KHAO PHISSET] What is your opinion about the situation in the Persian Gulf?

[Athit] This is a problem of the world. In my capacity as foreign minister, I am scheduled to visit Saudi Arabia. Our officials at various agencies are concerned with the safety of our people in the region. And we are closely working on this in urgency because we consider it a priority.

But in terms of Thailand's relations with the Middle East in general, I see the Middle East as a market with high potential for our exports and trade expansion. We are a small country, so politically speaking, we are guided by UN norms, while economically speaking, we may have our unique approach concerning the problems in the Middle East. Anyway, we are no different from the rest of the world concerning political issues.

For me, what is most important to us about the Middle East is the "oil," or energy. It is possible that a war might break out in the Persian Gulf, or there may not be a war at all. Nobody can predict that. What is important for us is that the situation there is related to the problem of oil and energy, and this will greatly affect Thailand. From the current situation in the Persian Gulf, we must try to adjust our needs for energy supplies. That means we will have to find other sources of oil and energy supplies. The government must work to find new technologies for energy production. The Foreign Ministry is ready for this campaign. There are several options open to us. One example of this is our cooperation with Laos under the Mekong development program. Once this project is completed, we can benefit from electricity and energy production.

Spokesman: Requests for Jakarta Talks on Cambodia

BK0502005591 Bangkok THE NATION in English
5 Feb 91 p 2

[Text] Indonesia and France have asked for Thai support to help prepare the leaders of the warring Cambodian factions for another round of peace talks in Jakarta, the government spokesman said yesterday.

M.R. Pridiyathon Thewakun told reporters that the two countries, which jointly chair the Paris International Conference on Cambodian (PICC), felt that Thailand's

support was crucial to persuade Cambodian leaders to compromise on some outstanding issues impeding the peace process.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, French Deputy Foreign Minister Edwige Avice and UN special envoy Rafiuddin Ahmad discussed the Cambodian conflict with Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan at Government House yesterday.

Alatas told reporters after meeting with Chatchai that the premier had pledged his support and help in trying to bring about greater understanding and preparedness among the Cambodian leaders before the next round of peace talks.

He said the Jakarta meeting, between the chairmen of the Paris conference and the Cambodian leaders, could pave the way for possible resumption of the international conference. The Paris conference adjourned in August 1989 with limited progress being made towards an overall peace settlement for the war-torn country.

Whether and when the meeting in Jakarta takes place depends on the readiness of the Cambodian leaders to compromise, Alatas said.

"Thailand has good relations with all the Cambodian leaders and continuing open lines to all the factions," said Alatas. "Therefore Thailand's support and contribution in this respect are highly appreciated by the two co-chairmen."

Chatchai said after the meeting that he had instructed the Foreign Ministry and his advisers to probe the readiness of the Cambodian leaders for the meeting in Jakarta.

"We will discuss the prospect of the meeting with them one by one," he said.

Chatchai, however, did not indicate whether he would agree to another meeting between the four factions in Bangkok.

During the meeting, the UN envoy informed Chatchai about the peace plan for Cambodia drafted by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and PICC'S working group (comprising the two co-chairmen and the chairmen of the Paris conference's subcommittees) said Pridiyathon.

The plan calls for the United Nations to take charge at least five key ministries in Cambodia during a transitional period to create a "neutral" atmosphere conducive to free elections.

"We're gratified to note that Thailand has no difficulties about the draft," said Alatas.

Pridiyathon said Chatchai supported the UN draft and the approach taken by the two co-chairmen but felt that that there were some differences among the Cambodian leaders that needed to be worked out—including the

phases of disarmament and contained of Cambodian armed forces and the question on chairmanship of the Supreme National Council, which would represent Cambodian sovereignty in the interim period.

"Unless the differences are solved the resumption of the Paris conference will be impossible," he said.

According to the spokesman, the premier told the UN envoy that the Cambodian leaders would manage to work things out when impartial parties in the conflict or the United Nations negotiate with the big powers to end their armed supported to the four warring factions.

Athit on Next Meeting of Cambodian Factions

*BK0502074991 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai
0530 GMT 5 Feb 91*

[Text] Foreign Minister Athit Urairat spoke to reporters at Government House this morning on the United Nations committee charged with settling the Cambodian conflict requesting Thailand to act as a coordinator for a meeting of the four Cambodian factions.

He said Thailand is willing to help facilitate and coordinate affairs so that the four Cambodian factions have opportunity to meet with each other. However, Thailand will not be involved in the meeting because it is the business of the Cambodians themselves to discuss and reach agreement on the issue.

Asked for the venue of the next meeting of the four Cambodian factions, the foreign minister said the meeting may be held in Indonesia. He believes that the prime minister will ask the Indonesian Government to play host to the meeting.

As for guidelines for further steps to resolve the Cambodian conflict, the minister said that, to his knowledge, efforts are being made for a cease-fire in Cambodia. This is a guideline set by the United Nations, which has so far made considerable progress in efforts to settle the Cambodian problem and is expected to produce better results in the future.

Official Reports on Repatriation of Lao Refugees

*BK0502115191 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai
1030 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Text] The Interior Ministry today repatriates 60 Lao refugees back to Laos via the immigration checkpoint in Mukdahan Province.

Sub-Lieutenant Kitti Pathumkaeo, inspector general of the Interior Ministry, reported on the campaign launched by the ministry, with cooperation from the UNHCR, to persuade Lao refugees to return home. The program was first launched in 1980. It was slow in the beginning, with only 3,421 Lao refugees being repatriated from 1980 to 1988.

With a revival of the Thai-Lao relations following talks at the foreign ministerial level in March 1989, Laos

agreed to take back refugees, both volunteers and illegal immigrants, at the rate of 150 per month starting in May 1989. Following three rounds of talks at official levels, Thailand managed to send more refugees back to Laos—at the rate of 150 to 300 per month. In 1989, Thailand repatriated 1,850 Lao refugees, and a total of 1,601 in 1990.

Most of the refugees who agreed to be repatriated are from the lowland. However, more of those from the mountains agreed to the repatriation following visits and explanations by Lao authorities, but they asked to be repatriated in groups and back to their native districts in Laos. Under such conditions, a total of 824 Lao refugees was repatriated in November-December 1990.

According to the inspector general, the Interior Ministry has stopped giving permission to embassies to interview Lao refugees at Ban Napho camp, in Nakhon Phanom, for resettlement. As a result of this measure, it is hoped that more refugees will volunteer to return to Laos, and that more will be repatriated if Laos sets up a refugee holding center in Laos.

'Alleged Assassination Attempts' Examined

*BK0302024591 Bangkok THE NATION in English
3 Feb 91 p A1, A2*

[From the "Political Desk"]

[Text] A six-year-old investigation into alleged assassination attempts against "a public figure in high places" looms as the biggest time-bomb to ever face the Chatchai II coalition government.

Information now being leaked from inside and outside the military has revealed the sensitivity of the case, and indicated more people than former Premier Gen Prem Tinsulanon and former Supreme Commander Gen [General] Athit Kamlang-ek were involved.

Army sources said the case has now become a focus of emotion among the rank and file in the three armed forces and the Supreme Command.

The latest spread of information about the alleged assassination attempts is also changing the shape of the issue.

"At first, it was generally seen as a "tool" by the dominant army faction to use against its long-time rivals—the former Young Turks. But it is now being seen in a larger context. More and more in the armed forces have realized that it was not only Gen Prem and Gen Athit who were targets of the alleged assassination attempts," said one army source who asked not to be named.

Prominent members in the defunct Young Turks group are alleged to be suspects in the case.

"There are now concerns in the military that the case will be aborted at the investigation stage. The emerging consensus in the rank and file is that it should reach the

courts as soon as possible so doubts about the allegations can be cleared, once and for all," said one army source who asked not to be identified.

Yesterday, Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong said the military would somehow participate in the investigation which was being reviewed following the change of the national police chief and the commissioner of the Central Investigation Bureau.

"We have military officers who will act as witnesses," he said.

Last Tuesday, Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun gave the most authoritative hints so far as to the importance of the case and the extent of its conceivable repercussions.

According to the army chief, the investigation into the alleged attempts on the life of Gen Prem led to the discovery of a far more "sinister plot."

"The alleged assassination attempts on 'a public figure in high places' were in addition to the attempts on Gen Prem's life. The former case was hidden in the latter," he told THE NATION in an interview last Tuesday.

Suchinda said although the army was not involved in the investigation which has been handled by the Central Investigation Bureau, he has learned from "friends" familiar with the case that the evidence gathered in the case was strong.

"Some of the alleged accomplices in the assassination attempts have given confessions which have been videotaped," he said.

Participants in the attempts included communist insurgents from the Northeast, the army chief said.

Suchinda is chairman of the Chulachomklao Military Academy's Class Five graduates, who dominate the top slots in the army and include newly-appointed Assistant Police Director General Pol Lt [Police Lieutenant] Gen Bunchu Wankanon.

Bunchu, who was removed as commissioner of the powerful Central Investigation Bureau (CIB) last week, had handled the case and recently forwarded it to former police chief Pol Gen Sawaeng Thiraswat on advice of the army chief.

Suchinda said Bunchu did not shelve the sensitive case, which began while Gen Prem was still in power, but legal action has been delayed by circumstances.

"There was no opportune time to take action—any move would have aroused publicity. And it could not occur on occasions such as the 60th birthday celebrations of His Majesty the King (in 1987), for instance," he said.

He added that Bunchu was prodded into passing on the case to his superiors by a recent police order setting a deadline for all investigating officers to take stock of the backlog of cases.

Bunchu was worried he would be disciplined if he failed to process the case, the army chief said.

"This is a serious offence and even if he (Bunchu) was an ordinary citizen, he could be punished for failing to report it to the authorities, not to mention the fact that he is an officer himself. Even after his retirement, he might not be able to get away with it," Suchinda explained.

Suchinda said Bunchu had asked him for his opinion, and he had advised his friend to submit a report on the case to higher authorities. "He was concerned that his reputation might be damaged in later years if he failed to process the matter in accordance with his responsibility," Suchinda said of his friend's feelings.

Bunchu took Suchinda's advice and his report of the case was discussed at a committee comprising Interior Ministry Permanent Secretary Anan Anantakun, the Director of the national Intelligence Agency Gen Attaya Phaeophanchon, former police director general Pol Gen Sawaeng and a few other top-ranking officers. But the committee apparently failed to act, the army chief said.

The committee sent the case back to the Police Department, with instructions to start the investigations anew, Suchinda said, adding that this was difficult to carry out since the incident took place many years ago.

There was still no decision as to whether the suspects would be prosecuted, he said.

Suchinda refused to comment on some published reports that an army officer close to Premier Chatchai Chulhawan was one of the suspects.

"That I don't know and I don't care. The point is that the case has been processed through legal channels and the evidence is so strong that nobody has dared order it be dropped," he said.

Suchinda declined to comment on whether there was any connection between the case and the recent police reshuffle which involved Pol Gen Sawaeng's departure from the top police post and Bunchu's transfer from the CIB, saying the army would not involve itself in police affairs.

"We regard that as an internal affair of the Police Department. It's true that we are friends of Bunchu and that he has told us how he's doing there, but that's it. We have never meddled in his work or police affairs," Suchinda said.

Suchinda said Bunchu was "promoted" simply because he was now senior enough for the higher post of assistant police director general.

Bunchu succeeded Pol Gen Sanong Wattanawarangkul, who replaced newly-appointed Police Director General Pol Gen Sawat Amonwiwat as deputy police director general.

Suchinda quoted Sawat as saying that Bunchu's responsibilities could be changed later on.

Apart from ousted former police chief Pol Gen Sawaeng, who confirmed he had received the case from Bunchu, others in the Police Department have been mute. So has the government, which referred it to the new police chief.

Pol Gen Sawat has yet to declare his knowledge of the new assassination allegations.

He has only referred to the old case of alleged attempts against Gen Prem's life in an interview last week.

"The report on the case is only four or five pages long and the evidence is still weak," he said.

Sawat said he had assigned newly-appointed Deputy Police Director General Pol Gen Sanong Wathanawarakun to handle the case.

Officially, the case now falls into the lap of the new police chief and police officers in charge of crime suppression, mainly the deputy police chief, the new CIB commissioner and probably reputed crime buster, Crime Suppression Division Commander Pol Maj [Police Major] Gen Seri Temiyawet.

Nonetheless, their handling of the case would inevitably give rise to questions on the possible role of the government in the investigation. After all, the top-ranking police team was promoted to their key positions under Gen Chatchai Chunhawan.

As it is today, the government and the Police Department are under increasing pressure from those in the military not to bury or derail the case. But if the government decides that there is strong evidence to prosecute the suspects and pursue the legal process, it would inevitably become publicized. The latter scenario will have a great impact on the government's stability and future.

Health Official Cites AIDS Statistics, Policy

BK0102044591 Bangkok THE NATION in English
1 Feb 91 p A3

[By Tunsathit Thapthim]

[Text] More than 300 Thais have died of AIDS, about one percent of the total 25,000 people found infected, but a senior public health official says the AIDS situation here seems to have stabilized.

Dr Thira Ramasut, director general of the Communicable Diseases Control Department, said AIDS has killed 307 people and the death toll is expected to rise quickly in the future as many of the 25,242 infected people have developed symptoms.

AIDS researchers have consistently argued that the number of people testing positive for AIDS is very misleading because it does not reflect the high prevalence rates in random samples of the general population.

They say that rates of infection are more important.

For example, more than 50 percent of prostitutes in some areas are carrying AIDS, while one in ten rural men between the age of 20 and 24 in Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai provinces have been turned away from military service because they are infected with the AIDS virus.

But Thira said there have been "encouraging signs" that the formerly skyrocketing rate of AIDS infection was beginning to ease.

About 9,200 AIDS carriers were found last year, compared with 10,770 discovered in 1989.

"The fact that fewer people were found infected last year despite a much more extensive medical survey gives us hopes that the situation has somewhat stabilized," Thira told THE NATION in an interview.

Fewer carriers were also found last year among drug addicts and prostitutes. That indicates wider awareness among the high-risk groups, Thira said.

"It seems our campaigns for the use of condoms and against the sharing of needles are beginning to yield fruit," he said.

One sign of greater condom awareness is an "unprecedented" decrease in the number of cases of venereal disease, the director general added.

According to official figures, seven in every 1,000 Thais suffered from venereal diseases in 1988. The ratio was reduced to 4:1,000 last year.

Thira attributed the apparent success in containing the spread of AIDS in Thailand to a concerted, large-scale campaign by the government and help from the private sector.

Thira said the government's anti-AIDS policy is focusing on education of children and teenagers, and continuous creation of awareness among high-risk people.

Now primary schoolchildren are being taught about AIDS, and many children and teenagers have been trained to become "anti-AIDS volunteers" in their communities.

Despite the optimism, Thira cautioned that the AIDS threat in Thailand is still great.

He said Thailand has about 86,000 prostitutes and more than 4,200 of them are carrying the deadly AIDS virus.

The figure, which is based on surveys by the Police Department, is widely disputed by many women's rights organizations who insist that the real number is in the 100s of 1000s.

A major "women's campaign" will soon be launched to encourage Thai men to refrain from promiscuous sex and frequenting brothels, Thira said.

The nationwide campaign will involve leading female public figures "from all walks of life" led by Than-phuying Bunruan Chunhawan, the prime minister's wife.

Thira said it would be the biggest-ever joint attempt by Thai women to "change the sexual concepts" of Thai men. It will involve exhibitions, demonstrations and personal advice, he said.

"We need to change such concepts like that requiring 'grown-up' Thai men to visit prostitutes 'without a shield' to prove their manhood," Thira said.

Officials Seize 22.5 kg of Heroin in Bangkok

BK0202135091 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 2 Feb 91

[Text] Officials of the Office of Narcotics Control Board [ONCB] have arrested a suspect in the transport of 22.5 kg of heroin hidden in a truck's gasoline tank. This morning, based on information that a large consignment of heroin would be brought from Chiang Rai Province to be delivered to a buyer in Bangkok, ONCB deputy secretary general Major General Koson Limpichat and his staff conducted an investigation. Yesterday afternoon they found two men in a blue pickup truck parked on Yu Charoen Road, off Asok-Din Daeng Road, Bangkok, waiting to deliver the heroin to a customer. One of two men was able to escape because the place where the truck parked was a busy area. After waiting in vain for someone to approach the truck, the ONCB team decided to arrest the man in the truck—Bunsi Sukkasing, Chiang Rai resident—at about 2230. They found 60 no. 4 heroin blocks weighing a total of 22.5 kg in a hidden compartment in the gasoline tank. The man was charged with possession of heroin with the intent to sell without permission.

Vietnam

Seminar With U.S. Probes MIA's, Relations

BK0102152191 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Report on interview with Tran Bach Dang by TUAN TIN THANH NIEN, WEEKLY YOUTH NEWS, on a seminar for Vietnamese and U.S. professors in Vietnam in January; place, date not given]

[Text] A seminar was held for Vietnamese and U.S. professors by the Vietnamese Ministry of Education and Training and the U.S. Education Exchange Organization in Ho Chi Minh City 7-12 January 1991.

The U.S. delegation, led by Professor (Keith Eba) of Cornell University, was comprised of 32 professors and assistants teaching in U.S., German, and Chinese universities.

The Vietnamese delegation had 34 professors and assistants from the Integrated College of Capitalist Economics of the Social Science Institute, led by Assistant Professor Nguyen Ngoc Giao, head of the college.

The subject of the seminar was "Understanding the Prospects of Vietnam History". All issues relating to Vietnamese culture, society, and history were discussed enthusiastically.

The contents of the interview is as follows:

[TUAN TIN THANH NIEN] It is said the U.S. friends asked many difficult questions.

[Tran Bach Dang] That was normal. They were good willed. I think by observing and listening in person, the U.S. professors only needed to repeat part of the reality of Vietnam to the students, teachers, and the U.S. public to help the good relations of the two peoples and two countries.

[TUAN TIN THANH NIEN] Did a U.S. friend ask you about the Vietnamese attitude on the Gulf issue.

[Tran Bach Dang] Yes, I said I was sorry I was not Minister of Foreign Affairs Nguyen Co Thach. I said the issue had changed from bad to worse, and hoped it would not worsen.

[TUAN TIN THANH NIEN] Was there a question about why the United States has refused to normalize relations and lift the trade embargo against Vietnam, and whether this is due to the dissatisfaction among U.S. war veterans against Vietnam for not releasing all the MIA's and returning the remains?

[Tran Bach Dang] The U.S. friends asked my Vietnamese colleague that question at a different meeting. To clarify, I added that Vietnam is not holding any U.S. prisoners. What would we be holding them for? Moreover, I said nursing a soldier until he is well is too expensive for us. About the remains, what are we to do when U.S. soldiers die in the middle of the thick Truong Son jungles or when their planes crash into the ocean or in Laos or Thailand. I asked whether it was right for those issues to impede the normalization of U.S.-Vietnamese relations, and whether Vietnam had any interest in keeping those remains. Before, the U.S. Government raised two obstacles to the normalization of relations: the Cambodian issue and the MIA's. Vietnam has solved these two issues satisfactorily. Now the U.S. Government has erected a third obstacle saying that Vietnam has not given up socialism. And later, perhaps a fourth obstacle. A professor who is a U.S. war veteran said U.S. war veterans have different viewpoints than the U.S. Government. A group of conspirators that does not represent the U.S. war veterans has created this problem for Vietnam.

[TUAN TIN THANH NIEN] Were there any questions about boat people?

[Tran Bach Dang] That is our country's tragedy. Fortunately, the present volume of boat people is not worth talking about.

[TUAN TIN THANH NIEN] There were two questions that were rather unpleasant: They were, when will the Vietnamese be allowed to live where they want to and when will Vietnam stop being the nation with the world's highest military budget.

[Tran Bach Dang] I do not think those question were unpleasant. The United States has the right to ask them and we will answer them. To the first question, I replied that it is difficult for Vietnam at present as the Vietnamese Government allows its citizens to emigrate as long as they are accepted by another country. Most of the countries refuse them. Even the United States still limits immigration under the HO [as published] Program and Asian countries force Vietnamese at temporary settlement camps to return to Vietnam or to go back into the sea. To the second question, even when the war was at its peak, Vietnam never had the world's highest military budget, whether in terms of absolute figures, figure per capita, or as budget or GNP percentages. I said that as someone who has done some research on this subject.

[TUAN TIN THANH NIEN] Were there anymore questions?

[Tran Bach Dang] Yes, many more. They represented the concern of U.S. friends such as how Vietnam will preserve its culture against moral degradation and its way of life, as is the situation in some countries. There were also questions about womens' incomes, prostitution, economic policy, and the differences between renovation in Vietnam and in other countries. Some of them believe Vietnam has its own method, which is more successful.

[TUAN TIN THANH NIEN] What is your general idea?

[Tran Bach Dang] I think it is necessary to have direct communication. The U.S. public needs to understand us better, more deeply, and especially, more accurately.

Thank you.

Conference With U.S. on Humanitarian Issues

BK0102152091 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1445 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] According to an agreement between the Vietnamese and U.S. Governments, a conference of Vietnamese and U.S. experts on Vietnam's humanitarian issues was held on 28 January 1991 in Hanoi.

Both sides reviewed the results achieved in 1990 and exchanged ideas on measures to intensify cooperation in the future. The U.S. side has had in mind specific measures to accelerate action to meet Vietnam's humanitarian requirements.

The conference took place in a spirit of frankness and openness, and with good results.

Luu Duc Chuyen on Party Draft Documents

BK0402101191 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 10 Jan 91 pp 1, 4

[From the "Views Contributed on the Seventh Party Congress Draft Documents" Column by Luu Duc Chuyen]

[Text] The key and most prominent feature of a social system is the form of ownership of the means of production, which either paves the way for or impedes the development of production forces and which also testifies to the prevalence of social justice or injustice (superiority or outdatedness).

Everyone knows that the socialist regime is based on the collective ownership of the means of production (the right of ownership of the means of production belong to all citizens). If this were true, a modern and superior society where justice prevails would exist. Regrettably, in spite of the fact that the collective ownership system has been established in our society, we still do not have a correct sense of mastership (ownership). Sometimes, our concept of ownership is abstract because of the following reasons: —The ownership value of an asset is a tangible sum which can be represented by the quantity, quality, importance, or nature of that asset. However, in practice, nobody has an idea about either his/her share or the size, location, and aims of that common asset (mastership value)... As far as this issue is concerned, there is still room for improvement because, compared with the private ownership system, we do not have a clear idea about what we own. —The ownership value is a variable which is subject to changes as time passes. Obviously, hard work and accumulation of capital will help us increase the value of our assets. Otherwise, we will experience a gradual value depreciation and then a total loss. As far as our society is concerned, let's raise these questions: Who knows whether the value of our share of the overall social wealth has increased or diminished? How much is left or is it true that everything has been spent? What will happen to that value if each individual person continues his/her current work performance? These questions should be used as the bases for formulating a program of actions aimed at implementing our right to mastership. It can be said that irresponsibility, parasitism, and social negativism all stem from the belief that work performance, poor or otherwise, has nothing to do with people's equal right to ownership. It is the very fact that people never had the chance to know about their share of the collective ownership of the means of production that has given rise to corruption. Only when people clearly understand their rights and duties can they heighten their sense of responsibility, exercise the right to mastership, enhance work efficiency, and combat corruption and power abuse.

If the people are masters of society but fail to fully realize the value of their ownership right, they will be unable to show their appreciation for that value through concrete actions. The end result is that they will leave everything to the state when it comes to handling national affairs. Failure to address this issue will cause the situation to become complicated and intractable.

In "renovation," it would be a vicious circle if we return to the previous system of private ownership. This would amount to negating the many valuable achievements we have accomplished with untold amounts of our blood and bones over the past decades and would also arouse indignation among millions of people who, because of their obeisance to the party, have already once voluntarily given up all their production means for collective production and have since become hired or salaried men. They have had no savings to buy the factories at which they are working nor have they been able to buy some shares so they can become the true owners of these factories. The only alternative they now have is to go home empty-handed (without any production means left to work). Ironically, the owners of these factories are those who were once regarded as opportunists and corrupt (for having had the money to buy production means). It is justifiable if we are to fully mobilize the people's latent potentials (including manpower and means) to develop social production. However, we should promote harmonious development between manpower and capital and between "employers" and "employees." It is possible that an "employer" in a state economic organ (who can also be regarded as a salaried person) can be lowered to an "employee" when there is a change in his factory's ownership (for example, reverting to private ownership). This is highly likely.

During the transition to socialism, the continuing existence of the five economic components is an objective factor. The mobilization of all sources of capital for this purpose is a very correct party policy. We should continue to implement this policy as long as our country is still poor and backward. This policy has, in fact, contributed to ironing out numerous difficulties confronting the economy and society since the promulgation of the resolution of the Sixth Party Congress. But this does not suffice (as far as I can tell).

What is pressing is that we are expecting a platform with encouraging contents that can substantiate the laboring people's right to mastery, the most essential being the mastery in production means. The contents should not be too general or abstract as noted above. Instead, it should make every member of society link his responsibility to private ownership with that of public ownership. He should work hard to develop this value and should be mindful of defending it. Only through this can we overcome all difficulties, sluggishness, and negativism and fight corruption while under socialist construction. It can be said that this is an "essential" measure or a "key" to these problems.

In order to achieve the above aim, we should carry out the following:

- Balancing the capital owned by private individuals with that owned by the state and the collective and releasing concrete figures to keep all members in society constantly informed of their duties so they can exercise their right to mastery.
- Mapping out regulations governing private ownership and the right to use, exchange, and transfer production means, trying to ensure that the owners of these production means can truly exercise their right to mastery (for example, to exercise control and supervision over their assets and protect them).
- Determining the equal right to ownership (meaning the initial capital contributed by each member) and the liquidity owned by the public sector at a given time. It is necessary to come up with various measures to deal with the increase or reduction in the amounts of shares. From this we can see the state as the largest shareholding corporation of the people. All citizens, enterprise collectives, organs, or units must declare "bankruptcy" when their operations are ineffective thereby causing a gradual loss of all their capital, and eventually reducing them from being employers to "employees." (This can also happen to the state or other economic components in society). This is very fair and progressive because it provides practical encouragement for everyone.

How fortunate it is that each discharged soldier, on returning home from his national defense mission, possesses some initial capital in the form of production means just like other citizens. He has the right to use these production means to earn his living by joining a state enterprise. He can also cooperate with other economic components but this should be considered a sideline job for increasing his income. We can be either an "employer" or an "employee" as we choose.

Only when the above is realized can we achieve social justice with a true ruling socialist system, and can our socialist system claim superiority.

Kien Giang Province Views Party Documents

*BK0102104791 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese
14 Jan 91, pp 1, 4*

[Report by To Vuong]

[Text] A debate held by the Kien Giang Province's Vietnam Fatherland Front Committee to contribute views on the two draft documents of the Seventh Party Congress has captured the attention of many notables, intellectuals, religious dignitaries such as Buddhist monks, nuns, and Catholic priests; representatives of the Hoa and Khmer ethnic groups; and other veteran revolutionaries in the province. After a day of scrupulous work for the nation, 68 delegates gave 106 suggestions. Depending on their fields, all of them made their views

heard. They had one thing in common, that is, they all hailed the party for having respected and developed the people's right to mastery and for having listened to public views in an effort to incorporate the wisdom of the entire party and people into building a correct platform suitable for the current national situation.

All those participating in the debate affirmed that we should not question whether the platform building is appropriate at this time. Instead, we should realize that the platform building for socialist construction during the transitional period and the "strategy for economic development until the year 2000" is important and necessary. This is especially so in the current international and domestic situation where we need the platform and the strategy to clearly define the direction of our renovation.

Many participants noted that although the platform has been meticulously prepared and has been able to incorporate the theoretical and practical ideas of our country, it is still too lengthy. Others suggested that the platform should be written in simpler language so that people can understand it "easily."

History should be evaluated accurately.

When discussing the contents of each chapter of the platform, many held the view that it is necessary to perfect Chapter One if we are to evaluate the course of history and those lessons we learned during the past revolution more precisely.

We should affirm great achievements and assess those mistakes committed by the party. Many people said the severity of party mistakes in its strategic leadership cited in the draft platform is precise, except for the assessment of socialism which is incorrect. However, Comrade Nguyen Van Doc, member of the Provincial Fatherland Front Committee pointed out that one of the reasons for these mistakes is the prevalence of opportunism among several party members. In addition, laxity in control and the tendency to belittle organizational and ideological activities have aggravated mistakes in strategic leadership extensively.

How to evaluate the country's recent socioeconomic situation accurately was also debated relatively fiercely. Is it alright for the platform to say that initial developments are steady? Mr. Dinh Van Thien and Doctor Tran Quang Thuan held the view that an assessment of the successes achieved in the renovation is necessary but this should be done more prudently. We "would better say that initial but as yet unsteady developments have been noted."

With regard to the five lessons drawn from the reality of our national revolution, some people suggested that it would be better to merge Lessons Four and Five as they all deal with party affairs. Others proposed that a coming party resolution should stress each field of activity and should respect the objective law, and that the two lessons about gaining power and retaining power should be

combined. It was also suggested that Lesson Five on creatively applying Marxism-Leninism under the specific circumstances of the Vietnamese revolution should be supplemented with this phrase: Getting rid of dogmatism, constantly enriching the party's wisdom, etc.

Working towards a clean and steadfast party and a prosperous country. In order to give the platform a lasting vitality and to translate all the party's resolutions into fact based on the realities in the province and the country, participants hoped that the platform should further clarify party leadership matters and that it should be written more carefully.

Mr. Truong Quoc Hoan, a cadre of the provincial Fatherland Front, said: "As a party of the working class and the working people, the Communist Party of Vietnam should remain the ruling party if it is to lead the country to socialism. However, the party should be rectified and renovated and should not become conservative or sluggish." In order to enable the party to literally play a leading role, Mr. Tran Thanh Binh, vice chairman of the provincial Fatherland Front Committee, suggested: "In leadership, the party should incorporate the wisdom of society and should always be creative in overcoming dogmatism, plagiarism, voluntarism, and departmentalism. It should consistently set forth correct policies and appropriate measures. Along with renovating its political thinking, its staffing, and leadership attitude, the party should carry out democratization widely within its internal ranks.

It is necessary to ensure strong and uniform leadership from the top to bottom. Those recruited by the party and state leadership organs should truly dedicate themselves to the people and the country. They should be kept under constant supervision by the party and the masses. Many participants are concerned about the current alarming state of corruption, degradation, and deviation among party members and suggested that "the party should be short-staffed rather than weak." Such party members should be urgently removed so that the party can remain steadfast and win back the people's trust.

Speaking on party leadership, Catholic Priests Nguyen Van Viet and Vu Ngoc Noi and Msrs. Nguyen Dung Liem, Tran Thanh Binh, etc... all pointed to the need to build a compact and effective state apparatus from the central down to local levels. The state apparatus, as it is now, is cumbersome, ineffective, and lacks dynamism in socioeconomic management. Many participants also spoke of the necessity to clearly define the relations within our political system. For instance, we should delineate the role and functions of the National Assembly, the Council of State, the leadership duties of the party, and the right to mastery of the laboring people. At present, the delineations are not clear enough. Party leadership still resembles "both a football player and an umpire." Mr. Nguyen Dung Liem, vice chairman of the provincial Fatherland Front Committee, emphasized that "the ruling party should first be a scrupulous law enforcer."

While dealing with "socioeconomic development," all the speakers saw this as the determinant of the collapse or growth of a nation. It is encouraging that since the Sixth Party Congress, we have adopted many open-minded socioeconomic policies, thus helping to stabilize the national situation. However, in renovating the management mechanism, numerous restrictions and obstacles have been encountered by both production units and the people at large. Mr. Le Xuan Trieu, head of the provincial Fatherland Front Committee's Propaganda-Training Section said: In the platform, we should point out more clearly the interaction between industry and agriculture in commodity production. While products are influenced by the pattern of market activity and by various factors, we should ensure that labor output is translated into commodities. Mr. Tran Nhu An pointed out that to guide the development of the economic mechanism in the right direction and in a wholesome fashion, we should promptly perfect the economic law and build a rational tax policy to promote increased production. In addition, he also suggested that we draw on experiences from past agricultural reforms in the south and clearly define the roles of the working and other social classes during the transitional period. Mr. Tran Thanh Binh proposed: Among various economic components, private capitalism has been allowed to expand production and business. However, we should affirm the long-term existence of this economic component so that wealthy people can feel safe in investing their capital to expand production.

The development of the national economy is important and urgent. However, we should not forget to educate the people. Messrs. Nguyen Van Doc and Tran Thanh Binh and Catholic Priest Vu Ngoc Noi were concerned about the sharp decline in school enrollment. In some remote districts of the province, thousands of children have been denied schooling. Another problem is the dozens of engineers and technical cadres that have lost their jobs as a result of the recent "rectification of state-run economic units." With this kind of care, education, and employment, how can we achieve national progress? We should therefore elaborate our scientific and educational policy in the platform and designate time frames for the achievement of each objective.

On religion, Catholic Priest Vu Ngoc Noi also had doubts about "the wording" of the platform, saying that "it is similar to documents of the past". He wondered whether there was any change in the mode of implementation when an official platform comes into effect. But some people held the view that, basically, the party's religious policy as presented is complete and appropriate. However, it would better if we added the phrase: "opposing the exploitation of religious faiths by the enemy and miscreants, and those seeking to divide national unity." This idea won the backing of many participants.

Party Leadership Role, Activities Reviewed

BK3001150991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1400 GMT 29 Jan 91

["Topical Talk" with station editor Vu Dinh Vinh marking the upcoming 61st founding anniversary of the Communist Party of Vietnam on 3 February]

[Summary] Dear comrades and friends; the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] has undergone numerous ordeals and has made countless sacrifices in its glorious struggle for great victories during the past more than 60 years. "The history of our party is one of a genuine revolutionary party that plays a decisive role for all successes of our nation's revolution. Our party lines have always stemmed from the efforts to strive, together with the entire people, to achieve the final goals of the path chosen by Uncle Ho and our party and people."

Since its founding on 3 February 1930, the CPV has set forth correct revolutionary lines and effectively resolved the fundamental strategic issues of the Vietnamese revolution. After 15 years of valiant struggle, the party led the entire nation and people to the great victory in the 1945 August Revolution, thereby ushering in the era of independence, freedom, and socialism.

The party successfully led our people to glorious victories in the two wars of resistance against French colonialism (1945-1954) and U.S. imperialism (1954-1975). The great victory in spring 1975 helped eliminate the yoke of imperialism in our nation. This victory has added yet another glorious chapter in the history of the Vietnamese nation and has been recognized by the international community.

"Since 1975, the CPV has led our entire people to the new revolutionary stage to build socialism and defend the socialist fatherland. During the past 15 years, our people have persistently struggled against the imperialist and reactionary schemes and acts of sabotage against our revolution, while striving to build socialism and fulfill the lofty international obligations toward our two fraternal countries, Laos and Cambodia. We have scored initial yet significant achievements in these tasks. Nevertheless, in supervising socialist construction, especially in the socioeconomic field, our party has made mistakes in formulating strategies and designing concrete measures for some important tasks. However, at its Sixth Congress, our party boldly undertook self-criticism on its shortcomings and mistakes and set forth measures to improve the socioeconomic situation. Achievements made during the past period have testified to the correct renovation cause set forth by the Sixth Party Congress."

It is necessary to mention here that to accomplish the above achievements, our party and people have endured undescrivable hardship and made countless sacrifices in flesh and bone. Tens of thousands of party members and patriots were jailed and killed during the French domination in 1931-32. In southern Vietnam during 1954-59, more than 466,000 party members were jailed, among

them 68,000 killed. "During the two wars of resistance for national salvation against the French colonialists and U.S. imperialists, about 160,000 party members sacrificed their lives." Undergoing these protracted wars, our party has been forged and become an unyielding force with ample experiences in revolutionary struggle.

"Dear comrades and friends, today our entire party, people, and armed forces are carrying out concrete, seething activities to prepare for the upcoming Seventh CPV Congress—the great historically significant congress. Our party has also made public some draft documents for all people's strata to study, discuss, and contribute viewpoints. Chapter Six of the draft platform on socialist construction for the transition period mentions the role of the party in building socialism and asserts that our party is capable of leading our nation toward socialism."

The platform stresses that the party is the leader and a faithful servant of the people, that the party always considers serving the fatherland and the people its most important task, and that the party has no other interests. As a result, in the new revolutionary stage, the CPV has very great potential.

Given the achievements scored by our nation under the party leadership over the past more than 60 years and the swift, complicated changes in the world at present, the CPV leadership is very important for the development of our revolution.

In the current renovation cause, the party must enhance its leadership and militancy more than ever before. It is interesting to mention here that the party set forth the renovation cause and is supervising its implementation, while at the same time, the renovation cause requires the party to renovate itself to meet the requirements of socioeconomic development.

"From the Sixth CPV Congress to September 1990, our party took disciplinary action against a large number of party members, including high-ranking cadres who could not maintain the quality of a communist. However, during 1987-89, the party admitted more than 250,000 new party members or an average of 84,000 persons annually. This indicates that the movement to purify the party and to enhance the militancy of party members has been carried out more positively and has scored notable achievements."

Dear friends and comrades, during the past 61 years our party has proven itself an effective political vanguard unit that could overcome all ordeals and difficulties for the advancement of the Vietnamese revolution. Our party history is glorious, its renovation cause is great. Given the achievements scored by our people under the party leadership during the past period, we should place more confidence in the CPV, "especially in the process of building socialism, which the party is making every effort to renovate and improve, to fulfill this historic mission and together with the entire people, to strive to achieve the final goals. The draft documents of the

Seventh CPV Congress which were announced recently and the tasks being carried out by our party have helped strengthen our confidence in the CPV and its leadership in the future."

Radio Reviews Role of Communist Party of Vietnam

*BK0202144391 Hanoi International Service
in English 1000 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[Feature: "Talk of the Week"]

[Text] Born on 3 February 1930, the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] has, over the past 63 years, brought into full play its role of leading the Vietnamese revolution.

Before the CPV's coming into being, there were organizations and individuals who tried to find the way to lead the country out of colonial and feudal exploitation and oppression. They all failed in their attempts. Realities in Vietnam showed that only the CPV could solve this lofty issue.

Fifty years after its founding, the party succeeded in regaining independence and freedom for the country, although at that time it had only 5,000 members. Any Vietnamese can understand that the CPV is what has led the country's revolution from one victory to another, especially in the 45 years from its founding to 1975 when the entire country became independent and reunified.

The party, founded and trained by the late President Ho Chi Minh, has written many heroic pages of history and restored the image of Vietnam on the world map and after that had led the people in the struggle for independence and freedom for 30 consecutive years.

Over the past 63 years in Vietnam, the CPV has been the front leader and organizer of all successes in the country's revolutionary cause. And, surely, from now on, it is impossible for any other organizations to undertake this glorious mission.

Since its founding, the CPV has held six national congresses. The Sixth National Congress held in 1986 was of the greatest importance to the country's situation. At this congress, the party not only evaluated the victories of the Vietnamese revolution, but also courageously made self-criticism of its mistakes and errors to [words indistinct] the process of building socialism.

The party also admitted it made mistakes in strategic guidance and definition of concrete lines in some important domains, especially in the respects of price, wages, money, and capital construction.

The Seventh National Party Congress will be held in May this year. This will be an important event in the Vietnamese people's political life. In preparation for this congress, the party has made public a series of important documents, such as the platform of building socialism in the transitional period and the strategy on socioeconomic development to the year 2000.

In these documents, the party affirms its role of leading and helping the people on the one hand, and its efforts to renovate and discipline itself on the other. It also affirms the renovation, first and foremost, of the way of thinking; the improvement of its capacity; the setting up of platforms, lines, strategies, and tactics which should be correct and specific and in conformity with reality. The party also declares that party members are free to express their viewpoints within the party organization and can keep revelations on the basis of democratic centralism.

The CPV once again affirms its role as the sole leader of the Vietnamese revolution and its determination to carry out renovation to make the party, state, and people a unity bloc and lead the cause of renovation to victory.

Armed Forces To View Party Draft Reports

*BK0502032091 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Text] After all the party committees in the armed forces finished providing opinions on the two documents—the draft report on party construction and changing the party rules, and the draft report on the party rules after changes were made in them—the Political Department has held workshops for lecturers in the northern army units. The workshops aim at preparing for the whole armed forces to provide opinions on the political draft report of the Standing Party Central Committee that will be presented at the 7th National Congress.

Army Department Discusses Emulation Movement

*BK0502075991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1400 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Text] Today the General Political Department held a meeting to review the emulation movement in 1990 and plan the direction for emulation work in 1991.

Comrade Senior General Nguyen Quyet, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee, director of the General Political Department; Comrade Colonel General Nguyen Nam Khanh, member of the party Central Committee, deputy director of the General Political Department; cadres representing all departments, services, and committees; and emulation fighters of the department's organizations attended the meeting.

The meeting agreed that in the past year, the departments, services, and committees of the general department have tried their best to fulfill their duty in all tasks and completed all the targets set. Representing the emulation movement in 1990, the General Political Department elected 28 emulation fighters and determined-to-win fighters. The department also recommended 172 comrades and 49 units for reward including its eight leading units which were given award flags and certificates of merit by the Ministry of National Defense.

Speaking on direction of emulation in 1991, Comrade Nguyen Nam Khanh, deputy director of the General Political Department, stressed the following targets:

1. Stabilizing and determining to follow the socialist revolutionary path chosen by Uncle Ho and our party despite the difficult circumstances and enhancing fighting spirit in all work to counter any sabotage activities of the enemy, all kinds of opportunism, and all symbols of negativism.
2. Building clean and strong party committees; strictly observing the principles; and creating good responsibility, procedure, and attitude toward work and striving to heighten results in that direction;
3. All levels, all units raising their sense of responsibility and finding suitable measures to look after the material and spiritual life of cadres and soldiers; positively developing and managing assets and equipment.
4. Performing mass work and mass agitation work correctly to exploit the strong points of every unit to contribute in stabilizing security, politics, order, and safety in Hanoi capital.
5. Uniting and actively implementing successfully the duties of defending the party, the regime, and the government. Developing all the active elements of all units and all people. Concretely defining all requirements and targets of the emulation. Making the movement a real and self-consciousness popular mass movement.

At the same meeting, the comrade director of the General Political Department enthusiastically praised cadres, soldiers, and personnel staff in the general department for making many efforts and scoring many achievements in the past year. The director also reminded cadres, soldiers, and personnel in the general department to develop the spirit of self-reliance, and creatively overcome all difficulties life to satisfactorily perform the responsibilities and duties of a strategic organization contributing to complete a common duty entrusted by the party and the people.

Defense Ministry Issues Troop Regulations

*BK2601043891 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 25 Jan 91*

[Text] The Defense Ministry recently issued regulations on troop management composed of 277 articles in eight chapters and seven appendices compiled on the basis of the three regulations published in the 1980's. They are regulations on internal affairs, army ranks, and bivouac defense.

The troop management regulations adequately reflect integrity and democratic spirit, further uphold self-consciousness and the responsibilities of cadres and combatants, and determine more clearly the position and authority of commanders in troop administration and education. At the same time, they clarify the duties and benefits of soldiers during the time of active service.

Committee Discusses Agricultural Production

*BK0502135691 Hanoi International Service
in English 1000 GMT 5 Feb 91*

[Text] The Economic, Planning, and Budget Committee of the Vietnamese National Assembly has held an enlarged meeting to consider measures to boost agricultural production. Fertilizer has remained in the forefront.

The committee decided to urge foreign countries to deliver the remaining amount of fertilizer of 1990, and buy more than 900,000 tonnes of fertilizer in 1991.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Water Resources said that this year another 100,000 hectares will be irrigated. Special attention will be paid to the prevention and fighting against droughts and floods.

Hanoi Urges Quick Settlement of Cambodian Issue

*BK0502101691 Hanoi International Service
in English 1000 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Gulf war has been going on for more than two weeks and becomes the focus of the world public. However, in the past several days, countries having concerns for the settlement of the Cambodian problem have continued their efforts to speed up the process. The recent visit to Bangkok and Hanoi by the two cochairmen of the Paris conference on Cambodia, Mr. Ali Alatas and Mrs. Edwige Avice, and the representative of the UN Secretary General Mr. Rafiuddin Ahmad was one the activities to settle the Cambodian conflict. Here is our radio opinions on this matter:

The fierce fighting in the Gulf still fails to sidetrack public opinion from other urgent issues in the world such as the Cambodian issue. France, Indonesia, the two cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia and the United Nations who are observers of the draft agreement on Cambodia have renewed the efforts in the settlement of the Cambodian issue.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, French Minister in charge of External Relations Mrs. Edwige Avice, and Under Secretary General of the United Nations Rafiuddin Ahmad paid working visits to Bangkok and Hanoi from January 31 to February 4. The objectives of the visit were to resolve and narrow the differences and find out a general consensus among countries concerning the Cambodian issue. That is why before the trip, Mr. Alatas has made some optimistic settlements. He told newsmen that through the trip, he hopes peace will be restored in Cambodia by the end of 1991 and an agreement will also be signed in the year.

What Mr. Ali Alatas has expressed is also the desire of many others who were interested in the Cambodian issue. That optimistic settlement will become a reality if

countries participating in the settlement of the Cambodian issue respect the Cambodian people's sovereignty, independence, and self-determination. To put it in the nutshell, that draft agreement of the Cambodian issue must respect reasonable proposals of the government and State of Cambodia. These proposals were put forward many times by Chairman Hun Sen in the past several months. More recently, during his tour of the navy base in Kompong Som Port, party General Secretary and Chairman of the State Council Heng Samrin reaffirmed the State of Cambodia's consistent policy in the process of resolving the Cambodian issue on the principle of respecting Cambodia's national independence, sovereignty, and self-determination and the United Nations Charter.

It is necessary to maintain the present military and political status quo in Cambodia, that is the existence of a civil administration and an army. Another indispensable yet important thing is that all countries should have strong and concrete measures to prevent the return to power of the Pol Pot genocidal clique. Any agreement or document put forward for the settlement of the Cambodian issue excluding a provision about the prevention of the resurgence of the Pol Pot clique will not help to resolve the Cambodian issue. Though this provision is short, it is a pivotal point in the settlement of the Cambodian issue as it guarantees the happiness and peace for the Cambodian people.

The war in the Gulf has lasted for more than two weeks, but its losses are great. This is one of the reasons people want to resolve the Cambodian issue quickly. Whether this desire can be materialized or not, it depends very much on all sides and countries concerned on the basis of respecting the Cambodian people's independence, sovereignty, and self-determination.

It is hoped that following the trip to Hanoi by Indonesian and French officials as well as the United Nations representative, the process of resolving the Cambodian issue by peaceful means will be stepped up.

SRV-Phnom Penh Cooperation Committee Meets

*BK2601041291 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 25 Jan 91*

[Text] The 12th meeting of the Vietnam-Cambodia Committee for Economic, Cultural, and Technological Cooperation opened in Hanoi on 25 January.

The two delegations exchanged views on the results of implementing the agreement on economic, cultural, and technological aid and cooperation in 1990, and discussed the plan for cooperation for 1991 and subsequent years.

On the afternoon of 25 January the Vietnamese Trade Ministry delegation and its Cambodian counterpart also exchanged views and discussed plans for cooperation between the two ministries in the future.

Vo Chi Cong Receives European Envoys

*BK0502094291 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 4 Feb 91*

[Text] On 4 February 1991, Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Chi Cong received the following ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Vietnam: Juergen Elias of the Federal Republic of Germany, Peter Keegan Williams of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, (Jan Gonzer) of the CSFR, and Christian Mocame of Romania, all of whom paid the chairman courtesy visits.

Chairman Vo Chi Cong held cordial talks with the ambassadors. Also attending the function was Nguyen Dinh Loc, deputy director of the Office of the National Assembly and of the Council of State.

Lao Trade Delegation Arrives on Visit

*BK0502152691 Hanoi VNA in English 1451 GMT
5 Feb 91*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 5—An economic delegation of the Lao Government led by Khamphovi Keobualapha, minister of trade and tourism, member on the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, arrived here this afternoon for a working visit to Vietnam.

The delegation was welcomed by Le Kim Lang, deputy minister of trade.

During its week-long visit the delegation will hold talks with the Vietnamese Ministry of Trade on the implementation of the 1986- 90 trade agreement and sign a new agreement for 1991-95.

It will also meet other concerned ministries.

Chinese Trade Delegation Visits Border Province

*BK0202094491 Hanoi VNA in English 0719 GMT
2 Feb 91*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb.2—A trade delegation of Hekou and Huanghe districts of the southern Chinese province of Yunnan recently paid a visit to the northern border province of Hoang Lien Son.

During the visit, the Chinese tradesmen had working sessions with an economic delegation of the host province. Host and guest reviewed the goods exchange across

the border in the last year, and agreed that since 1991 the goods exchanges should be undertaken by state-run economic units.

CPV Greets Italian Communist Party Congress

*BK0102104291 Hanoi International Service
in English 1000 GMT 31 Jan 91*

[Text] The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] has sent a greeting to the 20th Congress of the Italian Communist Party.

The message of greeting noted the important role played by the Italian Communist Party in Italian society and life. It thanked the Italian communist and progressive forces in Italy for their support to Vietnam.

CPV Greets Mexican Socialist Party Congress

*BK0102094291 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 31 Jan 91*

[Text] The Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee has sent a congratulatory message to the 14th congress of the Popular Socialist Party of Mexico [PSPM]. The message reads: On the occasion of the 14th PSPM Congress, on behalf of the CPV, we convey to you comrades our warmest greetings. We wish the congress a splendid success.

The message further states: We have monitored with profound sentiments and wholehearted support the PSMP's and the fraternal Mexican people's struggle for their economic independence and for peace, democracy, and social progress.

We wish the PSMP many new achievements in implementing its glorious revolutionary cause and the friendship and solidarity between the two parties and peoples further development and consolidation.

Party Central Committee Greets German PDS

*BK2501155791 Hanoi VNA in English 1508 GMT
25 Jan 91*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 25—The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam had extended its greetings to the Second Congress of the Party of Democratic Socialism of Germany (PDS).

The message wishes the solidarity, friendship and cooperation between the parties and peoples of Vietnam and Germany further consolidation and development.

Australia

Trade Minister Welcomes EC Plan to Reform Policy

*BK0102103291 Melbourne Overseas Service in English
0500 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[Text] Australia's trade and overseas development minister, Dr. Neil Blewett, has cautiously welcomed the European Commission's approval of a plan to reform its agricultural protection policy. The plan is to be discussed by European ministers next week.

Dr. Blewett said the latest move could herald a new start to talks aimed at reforming world trade but which broke down last year mainly because of Europe's stand on farm support.

Fiji

Official, Opposition Figure Discuss S. Africa

*BK0202095191 Hong Kong AFP in English 0852 GMT
2 Feb 91*

[Text] Suva, Feb 2 (AFP)—Fiji would welcome an end to economic sanctions and sports bans against South Africa, a senior Foreign Ministry official said here on Saturday.

The official described South African President Frederik De Klerk's pledge to repeal the laws upholding apartheid as "a sign of positive changes to come," adding, "We've been supporting the reforms there."

But opposition leader Adi Kuini Bavadra said changes in South Africa held lessons "for Fiji, where the rulers appear to be taking the reverse direction in institutionalising racism."

Asked to comment on Mr. De Klerk's speech Friday to parliament in Cape Town, the official said, "I think Fiji would want the whole question of sanctions reviewed in light of the developing situation in South Africa. It's evolving in the right direction and we support it."

Fiji has for years backed a hard line on South Africa, banning sporting ties with Pretoria, especially in Rugby Union.

Adi Kuini said that she hoped Mr. De Klerk's reforms would have repercussions in other parts of the world where racism is rife. "I hope these changes in South Africa and what is happening in Eastern Europe will set off a new direction," she said.

Adi Kuini, widow of Fiji's last elected prime minister, is the leader of a party which has threatened to boycott elections under the new constitution because it guarantees political power to the country's indigenous Fijian minority.

Referring to South Africa, she said it would be "unrealistic for Fiji to bury its head in the sand and say these changes won't have an effect on us."

"All repressive regimes are crumbling as people continue to call for democratic changes, and Fiji has important lessons from them."

Rabuka Champions Cause of Mine Workers

*BK0402100991 Melbourne Overseas Service in English
0803 GMT 4 Jan 91*

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] Fiji's Armed Forces chief, Major General Sitiveni Rabuka, seems to be causing embarrassment to the interim government of Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara. The major general has told workers at an Australian-run gold mine that he will personally take up their grievances if the company and the government do not take heed. The miners have been waging a campaign against what they say are poor wages and conditions, inadequate safety standards, and victimization of union representatives. And, as Jemimah Gareth reports, the major general has also compared the situation at the Fiji mine with conditions at the Panguna copper mine on Bougainville.

[Begin Gareth recording] For the past few months, Gen. Rabuka, Fiji's Armed Forces chief and leader in the 1987 coups, had refrained from commenting on political developments. His silence was as a result of agreement with interim Prime Minister Ratu Mara who is determined to enhance the international image of his government by removing the military from politics. Now Gen. Rabuka again appears to be raising issues the government would rather not think about.

Speaking to workers during a visit to the Australian-run Vatukoula mine on Fiji's main island, Gen. Rabuka drew a parallel between conditions there and conditions at the Australian-run Panguna mine on Bougainville. Conditions, which along with more important grievances over land, sparked the two-year-old secessionist [words indistinct].

The Vatukoula mine is owned by the Melbourne-based Emperor Gold Mines and managed by Western Mining. Although it is not nearly as big as Panguna, it is a major export earner for Fiji and the source of long-running complaints—complaints which have centered on poor safety standards and housing, more pay, and lack of compensation for families of men killed in mining accidents.

The FIJI TIMES newspaper says Gen. Rabuka told the miners reports have confirmed they have major grievances, and the general warned that it would be difficult for Fiji to take part in a proposed regional peacekeeping force on Bougainville if the public felt workers in Fiji were being mistreated by their employers. He said

miners, especially landowners, were also being mistreated in Bougainville and that these issues were something his government should consider.

Throughout the dispute at Vatukuola, Western Mining has consistently refused to discuss the details of union complaints but preferring instead simply to reject all claims as false. In his talks with the miners, Gen. Rabuka questioned whether the Fiji Government was supporting a company which looked after its workers or one which ill-treated them.

The Armed Forces chief said he would take the issue up with Prime Minister Ratu Mara and was prepared to raise workers grievances with the employers. He warned the miners against violence and promised that if the government and Emperor Gold Mines did not take heed of their grievances, he would take action.

Although Papua New Guinea has indicated Fiji will be asked to take part in the peacekeeping force proposed as a result of an agreement with the Bougainville rebels, an invitation has not yet arrived. When it does, Gen. Rabuka will be in a key decisionmaking role. [end recording]

New Zealand

PLO To Ask Government for Food, Gas Masks

BK0502004491 Hong Kong AFP in English 2336 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Wellington, Feb 5 (AFP)—The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is to ask New Zealand to supply food and gas masks to Palestinians living in the Israeli-occupied territories, a press report here said Tuesday.

The PLO's Australia and New Zealand representative, Ali Kazak, was quoted by Wellington's EVENING POST as saying he would ask External Relations and Trade Minister Don McKinnon to supply the PLO with food and gas masks.

The most urgent needs were wheat, dairy products and baby food, Mr. Kazak was quoted as saying, followed by gas masks.

Vanuatu

Lini Fires Finance Minister; Reason Not Given

BK0402081291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0800 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Port Vila, Feb 4 (AFP)—Vanuatu's Prime Minister Walter Lini, whose Vanua'aku Pati faces an election later this year, said Monday he had sacked Finance Minister Sela Molisa. Fr. Lini announced the dismissal over the government run radio but gave no reason for his action.

Mr. Molisa, who survived a reshuffle of five other ministers in November, was unavailable for comment.

His removal from Vanuatu's Cabinet follows the dismissal of his wife Grace as Fr. Lini's private secretary in October. At the time Mrs. Molisa's sacking was linked to a row over an attempted deportation of two long-resident New Zealand expatriates which had been ordered by Fr. Lini.

Fr. Lini said Education Minister Sethy Regenvanu would become finance and housing minister while Justice Minister Donald Kalpokas, whom Fr. Lini recently named as his successor, would take the education portfolio.

The prime minister said he would become responsible for the Vanuatu mobile force, police, telecommunications and prisons.

Fr. Lini has been prime minister since independence in 1980 after he led the Vanua'aka Pati in its struggle against joint British-French colonial rule of the condominium known as New Hebrides.

The Cabinet reshuffle late last year was seen as an attempt by Fr. Lini, an Anglican priest who suffered a stroke three years ago which left his right side impaired, to head off any challenges to his leadership before elections in November.

Mr. Molisa's ousting to the backbenches follows a slide in support for the Vanua'aku Pati at a series of local government elections on January 24.

Mr. Molisa, 41, from Santo Island, became finance minister after national elections in 1987. Previously he had held the foreign affairs and home affairs portfolios. He has been seen as a key player in Vanuatu's attempt to boost economic stability and growth following cyclone damage and a 1988 constitutional crisis which saw the non-parliamentary opposition led by Barak Sope fail in an attempt to oust the Lini government.

Traditionally reliant on copra and other commodities, Vanuatu has seen rapid growth in recent years in its tax-free finance and offshore banking industry.

